

BOURRÉE DROITE DU PAYS FORT

(France)

This bourrée (Boor-RAY drwaht duh pay-ee fort) means "straight bourrée from the strong country." It comes from the region of Sancerre in Upper Berry, which is called the "strong country" because of its energetic dances. Pierre Panis and Paul Bouard taught the dance to Louise and Germain Hébert, who introduced it at the 1968 Folk Dance Camp at the University of the Pacific, Stockton, California. Bourrées are the "real" French dances, and although their origin is unknown, they are widely spread throughout French territory.

MUSIC: Record: Rythme 4001 - side A, "La Bourrée Droite du Pays Fort"
Barclay 820138 - side 2, band 4, "Bourrée Croisée de Sologne" (Substitute)

FORMATION: Cpls in longways formation. Line of M with L shoulder twd head of hall, facing line of W, with ptrs 4 ft apart. Ptrs should be able to touch other's hands when arms are straightened. This dance is never danced in circle. Hands free at sides, or W may hold skirt or edge of apron where hands fall naturally. Do not swish skirt.

STEPS AND STYLING: In Berry, bourrées are danced in a sober manner, with the M carrying most of the typical styling in their knee action. In the long step fwd, M lead with the heel, then take full body wt on to the whole ft. M knees are kept apart (turned out) and never fully straightened throughout the dance. W are strictly forbidden to copy M styling, and they dance in a very delicate way. Ftwrk is identical for both M and W.

Pas de Bourrée (Pah deh boor-RAY) - Bourrée step (1 meas).

Step fwd on L, bending knees outward (ct 1); step on R near L, beginning to straighten knees slightly (ct 2); step in place on ball of L ft (ct 3). Next bourrée step would begin with R. The step can be done moving fwd or bkwd, to R or L, or turning.

Avant-deux du Haut Berry (Ah-vahn-DOO) - from Upper Berry - (4 meas): 2 dancers face each other 4 ft apart.

Meas 1: Beginning L, take 1 long step fwd (ct 1); scuff R heel 1wd (ct 2); hop L in place (ct 3).

Meas 2: Step on R across L (ct 1); step slightly bkwd on L (ct 2); step R close to L (ct 3).

Meas 3: Beginning L, dance 1 bourrée step moving bkwd to original place.

Meas 4: Beginning R, dance 1 bourrée step in place.

NOTE: There is great emphasis on first step.

Bransiller (Brah-nee-LAY). Basically "pas de basque" or bourree danced in place, and used as a transition step between avant-deux and croisement. In true Upper Berry style, there is no cross step on ct 2. The last bransiller step before crossing becomes a preparatory move. This is accomplished by quickly turning so that the L shoulder is twd ptr, to initiate the crossing step. This quick change of direction momentarily before crossing is vital, traditional and always done. This anticipation characterizes the whole style of Berry dances.

Croisement du Haut Berry (Crawz-mahn) from Upper Berry - Crossing over (4 meas).

Meas 1: Beginning L, take 1 long step twd ptr, at same time pivoting L, CCW around each other to finish in ptr's original line, and facing each other. Step R beside L (ct 2); step L in place (ct 3).

Meas 2: Step R in place, throwing L ft sdwd L (ct 1); Step L beside R (ct 2); step R in place (ct 3).

Meas 3: Beginning L, dance 1 bourrée step, moving bkwd to opp place.

Meas 4: Beginning R, dance 1 bourrée step in place.

Epingle a cheveux (Ay-payng-leh shsh-VUER) - hairpin or U-turn (4 meas): 2 dancers are in single line facing head of hall, M behind W.

Meas 1: Beginning L, take 1 long step, each to own L, at the same time pivoting 1/2 L, CCW. (Dancers are now facing ft of hall, W behind M.) Step R beside L (ct 2); step L in place (ct 3). Do not dip shoulder.

Meas 2: Beginning R, dance 1 bourrée step in place.

Meas 3: Repeat action of meas 1 of "epingle a cheveux." (Dancers now are again facing head of hall, M behind W).

Meas 4: Beginning R, dance 1 bourrée step in place.

MUSIC 3/8	PATTERN
Measures	
4 meas	<u>INTRODUCTION</u>
A	I. <u>AVANT DEUX</u>
1-2	<u>M</u> move fwd twd <u>W</u> , with meas 1-2 of "Avant-deux du Haut Berry." <u>W</u> remain in place; no action.
3-4	<u>M</u> move bkwd to original place with meas 3-4 of "Avant-deux du Haut Berry." <u>W</u> dance action of meas 1-2, as described for <u>M</u> .
5-16	<u>M</u> repeat avant-deux steps (fwd and bkwd) 3 more times (4 in all). <u>W</u> continue steps as described for <u>M</u> . <u>NOTE</u> : <u>W</u> steps will carry over into next phrase of music.
B	II. <u>CROISEMENTS AND BRANSILLER</u>
	As Fig. II begins, <u>M</u> are in original pos. <u>W</u> , who started 2 meas later, are in the middle of the formation.
1-6	<u>M</u> dance 6 "bransiller" steps in place. <u>W</u> complete last 2 meas of "avant-deux," and then dance 4 "bransiller" steps in place.
7-10	All dance "Croisement du Haut Berry" (4 meas). Dancers are now in ptr's original place.
15-16	Beginning L, take 1 long step twd each other, at same time turning L, CCW, but <u>do not cross over</u> . <u>M</u> turns 3/4 CCW, and <u>W</u> turns 1/4 CCW to finish facing head of hall, <u>M</u> behind <u>W</u> . Dancers are now in single file in ctr of formation.
A	III. <u>EPINGLE A CHEVEUX</u>
1-16	All dance steps of "epingle a cheveux," 4 times.
B	IV. <u>CROISEMENTS AND BRANSILLER</u>
1-2	All dance 2 "bransiller" steps, backing up into original pos. <u>M</u> make 1/4 turn CW, <u>W</u> turn 1/4 CCW to face <u>M</u> .
3-6	All dance 4 "bransiller" steps in place.
7-8	All dance "Croisement du Haut Berry" (4 meas).
9-14	All dance 6 "bransiller" steps in place.
15-16	<u>M</u> pivot full turn in place, turning CCW on L, then dance 1 bourrée step in place. <u>W</u> dance 2 more "bransiller" steps in place. Ptrs have now exchanged places. From ptrs place, repeat dance from beginning. This time, at end of Fig II, dancers will have backs to head of hall. At end of dance, custom decrees that <u>M</u> kiss ptr first on her L cheek, then on her R cheek. <u>NOTE</u> : Rythme record - 4 meas introduction; allows for entire dance 2-1/2 times; has no additional music for kiss. Barclay record - 8 meas intrpduction; allows for entire dance 1-1/2 times; has additional music for kiss.