

LA BOURRÉE PASTOURELLE

(France)

La Bourrée Pastourelle (lah boo-RAY pahs-too-RELL) is a circle bourrée from the region of Pouligny-Notre-Dame in Lower-Berry. Without any doubt, it is the most popular dance in Berry. Groups usually use it for exhibition purposes. Louise and Germain Hébert introduced it at Folk Dance Camp at the University of the Pacific, Stockton, California in 1968 and again in 1972.

MUSIC: Records: Barclay 820138, Side 2, band 10 "Bourrée Croisee de Sancerre" (33)
Rythme 4002 (45)

FORMATION: Circle of 6 to 10 cpls, W at M R, all facing ctr.
Hands hang naturally at sides except that W may hold skirt.

STEPS AND STYLING: In Berry, bourrées are danced in a very 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 onto the whole ft. Most of movement is on ct 1 of each measure. M knees are kept apart (turned out) and never fully straightened throughout the dance. In the typical group of 4 meas. the accent (further bend of knees) is on ct 1 of each meas, particularly in meas 2 and 4. W are strictly forbidden to copy M styling, and they dance in a very delicate way. Ftwrk is identical for M and W.

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

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

Bransiller Step (Brahn-see-LAY)

The bransiller step is a bourrée step done in place, similar to a pas de basque. In Lower Berry the step is done very neatly with a crossing step on the second ct for the M. W do NOT cross.

Step L sdwd to L (ct 1), M cross R over L, W step R beside L (ct 2), step L in place (ct 3). Next bransiller step begin R.

MUSIC 3/8

PATTERN

- Measures
1-8 INTRODUCTION (4 meas on Rythme record). No action.
- A I. FORWARD AND BACK - Avant-deux (ah-vahn-doo)
- 1-2 M begin L, dance 1 bourrée step fwd; M begin R and dance 1 bourrée step in place. W wait in place, no action.
- 3-4 W perform action of meas 1-2 (Fig 1), as described for M. M dance back to place with 1 bourrée step, beginning L and stepping bkwd. M dance 1 bourrée step in place.
- 5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig I) three more times with W performing steps 2 meas later than M. On last meas W turn 1/2 CCW to end on inside of circle facing ptr.
- B II. CHAIN - Chaine (schay-nah)
- 1-2 Join R hands with ptr, beginning L dance one bourrée step past ptr to end with M inside circle and W outside circle. Dance one bourrée step in place.
- 3-4 Join L hands with next ptr, beginning L dance one bourrée step past ptr to end with M outside circle and W inside circle. Dance one bourrée step in place. On the Chain, keep joined hands at about waist level.

LA BOURREE PASTOURELLE (continued)

- 5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II) three more times.
- A III. FORWARD AND BACK - Avant-deux (ah-vahn-doo)
- 1-2 Drop L hands and dance fwd, beginning L, with one bourrée step so R shoulders are adjacent with next ptr (M facing in, W out). Dance one bourrée step in place.
- 3-4 Dance one bourrée step back, away from ptr. Dance one step in place.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III) with same ptr using L shoulders.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig III).
- B IV. MOUSE-TRAP - Souricière (soo-ree-see-AIR)
- W do NOT travel during this Fig.
- 1-2 M begin L and dance CCW around ptr using 2 bourrée steps to end behind ptr. W begin L and dance bransiller steps in place through entire figure. W dance in and out of circle (not side to side) to allow M room to pass.
- 3-4 M continue around ptr with 2 bourrée steps to end in front of ptr.
- 5-6 M dance CCW around circle with 2 bourrée steps to next W.
- 7-12 Repeat action of meas 1-6 (Fig IV).
- 13-14 M begin L and dance CCW around ptr using 2 bourrée steps to end beside ptr (3rd ptr this figure) facing out.
- 15-16 M take W R hand with L hand, hold hands down and turn together one-half CCW with 2 bourrée steps to finish facing ctr with W on M L.
- A V. FORWARD AND BACK - Avant-deux (ah-vahn-doo)
- 1-2 All join hands, hold them down, and starting L, dance fwd twd ctr of circle with 1 bourrée step. Dance in place with second bourrée step.
- 3-4 Dance back to place with 1 bourrée step and in place with second.
- 5-12 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig V) 2 more times.
- 13-14 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig V).
- 15-16 M drop hands with W on L and keep joined hands with W on R. M turn 1/2 CW to face out of circle with 1 bourrée step. W turn once CCW under joined hands with one bourrée step. M dance 1 bransiller step in place as W dance on outside of circle with 1 bourrée step CW to next M.
- B VI. PASTOURELLE (pahs-too-RELL)
- M do NOT travel during this Fig.
- 1-2 M and W join R hands and, beginning L, dance 2 bransiller step in place. Swing joined hands in arc to M R, then L.
- 3-4 Continuing bransiller steps, W turn CCW under joined hands to progress CW to next M. M swing joined hands to R and turn ptr under, continue bransiller steps.
- 5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig VI) 3 more times. On last 2 meas M turn 1/2 CW and dance out with 2 bourrée steps to finish on outside of circle with fourth W turned under at L and facing in.
- Repeat entire dance. With Rythme record repeat Fig I and Fig II again.