

Český minet (Czech Republic)

Český minet (CHEH-skee MIH-net) is a couple dance in waltz rhythm from northeastern Bohemia. The name derives from the French "minuette." Minets (or menuets) were originally parlor or salon dances but became folk dances in some European countries, including Bohemia. The name of the song used for this dance is: "Čtyři koně jdou" ("four horses going"), and comes from the Prácheňsko ethnographic region. Radek and Eva Rejšek taught this dance at the University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp in 2001, and at the Dvorana Christmas Folk Dance Week 2000.

Music: Cassette: Dances from the Czech Republic, Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2001, Side A/3;
CD: Czech Folk Dances by Eva and Radek Rejšek, Dvorana 2000, Band 8. 3/4 meter

Formation: Cpls in a single circle, facing ctr, W to M's R, all hands joined and held down.

Steps and Styling: Waltz step*, Closed-Ballroom pos*.
Entire dance is done in smooth, flowing style.

*Described in the "General Glossary" of *Steps & Styling (rev. 1996)*, published by the Folk Dance Federation of CA, Inc.

Measures	3/4 meter	PATTERN
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INTRODUCTION

- 1 No action.
- 2 With 1 Waltz step, M starting R, W L, dance bkwd while turning to face ptr. Joined inside hands swing bkwd (twd outside).
- 3 With 1 Waltz step twd ctr, M turn W to R (CW) under joined hands, M start with L ft, W with R.
- 4 With 1 step, M step R, W step L, to form circle, all facing in, hands joined and held down (ct 1); rise up on toes with ft together (ct 2); down (ct 3).

I. FORWARD AND BACK; WOMEN CROSS OVER

- 1-2 Waltz step fwd twd ctr with R ft, hands swing fwd (meas 1). Waltz back on L (meas 2), hands swing back.
- 3-4 Both starting with R ft, M waltz in place while leading ptr across to L side; W make 1 complete turn to L with 2 Waltz steps.
- 5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 7-8 Repeat meas 3 except W turn to R to face ptr (meas 7); on meas 8 both rise on toes (ct 1), and down (ct 2), hold (ct 3).

II. CIRCLING WALTZ

- 1-4 With 4 Waltz steps, both starting with R ft, dance one complete CW circle with ptr, R hips adjacent and R

hands held up with palms touching, up feeling on ct 2 of each meas. L hand held down and free at sides.

- 5-6 Waltz to R touching L palms with ptr and bringing L hips adjacent (meas 5). Reverse ftwk, direction, and hands (meas 6).
- 7-8 M waltz in place while turning W to R (CW) under joined R hands. On meas 8, drop hand hold, waltz to form single circle, facing ctr, hands held down.

Repeat Figs I and II.

III. SOLOS; GRAPEVINE; AND ELBOW TURN

- 1-4 M only, dance twd ctr with 2 Waltz steps, making half turn to R and backing up (twd ctr) on meas 2. Repeat meas 1-2 back to place (meas 3-4). W watch.
- 5-6 W only, dance twd ctr with 2 Waltz steps, making half turn to R and backing up (twd ctr) on meas 6. M watch.
- 7-8 W dance 1 Waltz step fwd to face ptr (back to ctr); M watch. On meas 8, both lift on toes (ct 1) and down (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 9-10 Both moving to own R, step to R on R ft (ct 1); step L in front of R (ct 2); step to side with R (ct 3); step on L behind R (ct 1); close R to L while rising on toes (ct 2); lower heels (ct 3).
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10 with opp ft wk and direction.
- 13-16 With R elbow hold, turn ptr (CW) in place with 3 Waltz steps, both start with R ft. On meas 16, drop hand hold, and W turn to R to form circle with 1 waltz step, hands held down. M waltz into circle turning to L as necessary.

Repeat Figs. I and II, except end in Closed-Ballroom pos.

IV. BALLROOM WALTZ

- 1-2 Dance 1 turning Waltz step, M starting with L, W with R, and moving in LOD (meas 1). With 1 Waltz step, M dance in place while turning W out to R (CW) under L arm (meas 2).
- 3-4 With 1 Waltz step, M turn to L (CCW) under own L arm; W dance in place (meas 3). Ptrs waltz away from each other, but retain hand hold; M can gesture by raising free R arm high (meas 4).
- 5-8 Regaining Closed-Ballroom pos, dance 4 turning Waltz steps CW, moving in LOD.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8, except on meas 16 M turn W out to R (CW) under L arm.