

DANISH "FAMILY CIRCLE"

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This Danish mixer folkdance was presented at Stockton Folk Dance Camp, 1953, by Gordon Tracie, who learned it in Scandinavia.

- MUSIC:** Record: Linden 703-B Danish "Family Circle"
Piano: "Folk Dances for Fun" by Jane Farwell; Rural Recreation Service, Dodgeville, Wis.
- FORMATION:** Cpls in single circle facing ctr, W on R. of M. Hands joined at shoulder height, elbows bent V-shaped so that dancers are fairly close together.
- STEPS:** Side-buzz, Walking*, Buzz Turn* (* Described in 'Folk Dances from Near and Far.')

MUSIC 6/8

PATTERN

Measures

4 meas

INTRODUCTION

I. CIRCLE TO L WITH SIDE-BUZZ STEP

- A 1-8 In circle formation, all facing ctr, dance to L (CW) with 16 side-buzz steps.
Side-buzz Steps: Face ctr. Step R across in front of L, with slight dip and with toe pointing twd ctr (ct 1), draw L directly back of R (ct 2), take wt on ball of L (ct 3). There are 2 buzz steps per meas. Steps should be small and light. Keep elbows bent, face ctr and lean slightly bwd. This step is the 'Introduction' and is not repeated.

II. WALK IN AND OUT

- B 9-10 Beginning R, all walk twd ctr with 4 steps, gradually raising arms to full height. On last step give a slight 'compliment' or nod of head.
- 11-12 Walk bwd 4 steps to original circle, lowering joined hands to shoulder height and 'complimenting' ptr on last step.
- 13-16 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 9-12.

III. GRAND CHAIN

- C 17-24 Facing ptr, join R hands at shoulder height (elbow downward) and continue around circle with 'grand right and left.' M move CCW, W CW. Keep hands at shoulder height. Count aloud (preferably in Danish) for each person met, (beginning with *OWN original ptr*) retaining #7 as new ptr.

IV. SWING PARTNER

- A 1-8 In closed Danish waltz pos (M L and W R joined and extended at arms length straight out from shoulder) swing new ptr (CW) with 16 buzz steps. End with ptr on M R, all hands rejoined to form single circle.

Repeat dance starting with Fig II. The sequence is thus: swing ptr; into ctr and out; grand chain. Only the first time through the side-buzz step is danced instead of a ptr swing.

Danish counting

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| 1 (en) | pronounced enu |
| 2 (to) | pronounced toe |
| 3 (tre) | pronounced tray |
| 4 (fire) | pronounced feer |
| 5 (fem) | pronounced femm |
| 6 (seks) | pronounced sex |
| 7 (syv) | pronounced syou |