

Dudácká Polka

(Czechoslovakia)

Dudácká (DOO-dahts-kah) Polka is a couple dance from Plzeň. It was introduced by František Bonuš at the 1979 Mendocino Folklore Camp and then taught by him at various other institutes and camps.

RECORD: Pantan 11-0221 (cover may say 01-0221) Side A/1 2/4 meter

FORMATION: Couples at random, in closed (ballroom) pos with M facing LOD. M has L shldr twd ctr and joined hands are held about waist level and slightly out to side.

STEPS and STYLING: Czech Polka (1 to a meas): May be danced in any direction. Step on L (ct 1); step on R beside L (ct &); step on L (ct 2); small hop on L (ct &). Step alternates. The Czech Polka varies from most polkas because the hop is on the last 8th note. Most polkas start with a hop on the last 16th note (upbeat) of the preceding measure.

Step-Lift (2 to a meas): Step on L (ct 1); lift L heel (ct &); repeat with opp ftwk (cts 2,&).

Slow Buzz (1 to a meas): To turn CW, step on R in front of L, bending knees (ct 1); step on ball of L to L, straightening knees (ct 2). Step repeats exactly.

Fast Buzz (2 to a meas): Same ftwk as Slow Buzz but danced twice as fast (cts 1,&,2,&).

Skip (2 to a meas): Step on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct ah); repeat with opp ftwk (cts 2,ah).
When free, hands are on hips with fingers fwd.

Ftwk described for M, W use opp ftwk unless otherwise noted.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

2 meas INTRODUCTION No action

I. SIDE-CLOSE AND POLKA

1-2 Moving twd ctr, step on L to L side (meas 1). Softly close R to L (meas 2).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4. On meas 8, M end with back to ctr.

9-16 Dance 8 Czech Polkas, turning CW and progressing in LOD. End with M facing LOD.

NOTE: Mr Bonuš would often take the first 10 meas as an introduction, leisurely escorting his ptr onto the dancing area and into closed pos. He would omit Fig I entirely and dance Fig II 1 1/2 times (24 meas). Fig I, as written in this description, was presented at the 1982 Statewide Institute in Concord and is the version most often danced.

II. ONE STAMP AND POLKA

1 Moving twd ctr, step on L to L side (ct 1); step on R beside L (ct &); step on L to L side (ct 2); hold (ct &).

2 Stamp R beside L (no wt), bringing joined hands up and in (bend elbows) while bending body away from ctr (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

3-4 Moving away from ctr, repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk, returning joined hands to orig pos and bending body twd ctr. On meas 4, M end with back to ctr.

5-8 Dance 4 Czech Polkas, turning CW and progressing in LOD. End with M facing LOD.

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8. At end, release ptr and put hands on hips. Ptrs are facing, M facing LOD.

III. ELBOWS AND ROCK

During meas 1-8 move fwd in LOD, W move bkwd.

1 Both turning body 1/4 to R, dance 1 Czech Polka beg ML, WR. L elbow points twd ptr.

2 Both turning body 1/2 to L, dance 1 Czech Polka beg MR, WL. R elbow points twd ptr.

3 M step fwd (L,R) in LOD; W step bkwd (R,L) in LOD (cts 1,2). Body turns a little to R on ct 1, a little to L on ct 2.

4 M: Keeping R ft in place, step fwd onto L ft, turning body to R so that L elbow points twd ptr (ct 1); rock back onto R ft, L elbow still pointing twd ptr (ct 2).

W: Keeping L ft in place, step bkwd onto R ft, turning body to R so that L elbow points twd ptr (ct 1); rock fwd onto L ft, L elbow still pointing twd ptr (ct 2).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 but omit the body turn in meas 1 (not necessary).

9-16 Moving in RLOD, repeat meas 1-8 with same ftwk but opp direction. On meas 9 both turn body 1/2 to L (not 1/4), M stepping bkwd on L and W fwd on R. R elbow points twd ptr.

IV. TWO STAMPS AND POLKA

1-8 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-8 but on meas 2 and 4 stamp ft twice (no wt) (cts 1,2).

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8. On last Czech Polka (meas 16) M step on L instead of hopping. End in modified closed pos with R hips adjacent and joined hands extended down and a little out to side with WR hand held between ML thumb and fingers (both palms down). M face LOD.

V. TWIRLING

1-4 Both beg R ft, turn CW in place with 2 Slow Buzz and 4 Fast Buzz steps.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

9-16 M: Raise joined hands above W head level and R hand up and out about head level. Beg R, dance 15 Skips fwd CCW around W, waving R hand easily. Facing LOD, step L beside R (no wt) (meas 16, ct 2).

W: Beg R, dance 16 Fast Buzz steps turning CW in place. Hold L hand down and slightly out to side. End facing ptr with back to LOD.

VI. POLKA AND STEP-LIFTS

1-2 In closed pos dance 1 Czech Polka twd ctr and 1 Czech Polka away from ctr, ending with M back to ctr.

3-4 Shifting to shldr-shldr blade pos, dance 4 Step-Lifts turning CW and moving in LOD.

5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three more times.

NOTE: At times Mr. Bonuš would dance this alternate ending:

Meas 15: Raising joined hands, M turn W once CW under joined hands. M step in place L,R (cts 1,2). W dance 2 Step-Lifts beg R.

Meas 16: Facing ptr with joined hands lowered, M step L,R,L (W: R,L,R) (cts 1,&,2).