KRAKOWIAK

The Krakowiak is one of the most popular dances of Poland. It gets its name from Krakow, capital of a southeastern province. The vigorous steps include heel-clicks to show off the beautiful stitched boots, and graceful arm movements to display the embroidered and lace-trimmed sleeves of the costume. The dance traditionally does not follow a set routine, but is arranged here to fit this record.

MUSIC:
Record: Victor 25-9077

FORMATION:
Couples in a circle, partners facing. M’s R arm is around partner’s waist, L arm high. W’s L hand is on M’s R shoulder. Her R hand holds skirt to side.

MUSIC 2/4

Pattern

Meas. | I. SLIDES AND COUPLE TURN
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1-8 | Slide 16 steps sideward CCW in a large circle. M starts L, W starts R. Without changing arm positions do a couple turn in place CCW (W moves fwd.) with 3 hop—step steps. The hop is always on the inside ft.; the accented step is on the outside ft. and coincides with the strong beat of the music. The second step is on the inside ft.

II. PAS DE BASQUE, HEEL-CLICKS AND STAMPS

1-4 | Facing center, couples join inside hands, outside fists on hips. Starting outside ft. do one pas de basque turning slightly back to back; on inside ft. do one pas de basque turning slightly face to face. Repeat.
5-8 | Partners facing, inside hands still joined, outside hands high, take 2 heel-clicks toward the center of the circle on M R, W L and 3 stamps (M L R, L; R R L, R). Repeat moving out of circle, starting opp. foot.

9-16 | Repeat Figure II, meas. 1-8.

III. BRUSH STEP

1-4 | Facing partner M back to center, join crossed hands. Both brush R ft. fwd. (ct. 1, &), brush R ft. back (ct. 2, &), stamp R, L, R. On the brush steps both turn slightly L so R shoulders are toward each other; face each other on the stamps. Reverse and repeat brush steps starting L ft.

5-8 | Repeat Figure III, meas. 1-4.

IV. BOX

1-8 | Partners facing about three ft. apart, R arm high, L fist at hip, take 2 heel-clicks, both moving to R, hopping on L, and 3 stamps R, L, R. Make a quarter turn CW at corner, reverse arms and ft. and take 2 heel-clicks and 3 stamps passing back to back, W toward center, M away from center of circle. Again reverse arms and feet, make a quarter turn CW, pass face to face with 2 heel-clicks and 3 stamps. Complete the box by making another quarter turn, reversing arms and ft. and passing back to back.

9-16 | Repeat Figure IV, meas. 1-8.

V. SLIDES AND COUPLE TURN

1-16 | Repeat Figure I, meas. 1-16.

VI. SLIDES WITH STAMP SWING

1-4 | Facing partner, join crossed hands and take 6 sliding steps twd. center, stamp (M L, W R), swinging other ft. across. Repeat reversing ft. and sliding away from center.

5-8 | Repeat, sliding CW, couples turning in place like a wheel. Repeat turning CCW.

9-16 | Repeat entire dance once and end with Figure I.