

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

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MASCANDO CHIQUITE

(Mahs-cahn-doe Chee-kee-tay)
(New Mexico)*Note: For easy reading, open staples,
remove description, close staples.*

This is a regional dance from the state of New Mexico. The tune has been sung in New Mexico since the days of early Spanish settlement. The step used in the figures is similar to the step of La Varsouvianna, which was popular in the American Southwest in the 1800's. The dance was learned by Albert S. Pill from Casilda Amador of Claremont, California, and was presented by him at the Santa Barbara Folk Dance Conference in 1958.

MUSIC: Record: ASP 302A "Mascando Chiquite",

FORMATION: Ptrs. in double circle, with L shoulders twd each other: M inside facing diag RLOD, W facing diag LOD.

STEPS: Walk*, Waltz*, Chiquite Step: (Similar to Varsouvienne Step, but danced in place.) With rise onto ball of ft, chug slightly bwd on L, at same time lifting R leg fwd with knee bent and turned out, toe pointing down (ct 3); step fwd R (in place), toe turned out (ct 1); step bwd L, in place (ct 2). Again chug on L (ct 3).

Note: Chiquite Step always begins on upbeat (ct 3) of the preceding meas.

Step may also begin with chug on R ft. Throughout the dance, steps are the same for M and W.

STYLING: M bent slightly fwd from waist in slouched pos, hands clasped loosely behind back. W, more erect, holds skirt with elbows rounded. Show interest in ptr.

*Described in "Folk Dances From Near and Far", Vols. I-VIII.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures

- 4 INTRODUCTION Chug bwd (slightly) on L (meas 4, ct 3).
- I. CHIQUITE STEP ON THE DIAGONAL
- 1-2 Dance 2 Chiquite Steps with chug on L.
- 3 Beginning R, take 3 small walking steps fwd (M, diag RLOD; W, diag LOD). On third step turn about 1/4 L to finish with R shoulder twd ptr. (M now faces diag LOD and W faces diag RLOD.)
- 4 Step flat on L, toe turned out, no wt (ct 1); hold (ct 2). Chug slightly bwd on R (ct 3).
- 5-6 Dance 2 Chiquite Steps, with chug on R.
- 7 Beginning L, take 3 small walking steps fwd (M, diag LOD; W, diag RLOD). On third step turn about 1/4 to R to finish with L shoulder twd ptr.
- 8 Step flat on R ft, toe turned out, no wt (ct 1); hold (ct 2). Chug on L (ct 3).
- 9-14 Repeat action of meas 1-6.
- 15 Beginning L, take 3 small walking steps fwd (M, diag LOD; W, diag RLOD). On third step face ptr, M back to ctr.
- 16 Step flat on R, pointing it twd ptr, no wt (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).

CHORUS

- 1-4 Beginning R, with 4 waltz steps ptrs move away from each other making 2 complete turns CW to finish facing ptr. (M move twd ctr of circle; W away from ctr).
- 5-6 With 2 waltz steps, dance directly fwd twd ptr. Finish about one ft apart.
- 7-8 Beginning R, with 2 waltz steps both make one turn to own R (CW) in place.
- 9-10 Join R hands, held high. Exchange places with 2 waltz steps, beg. R, W making 1/2 turn L (CCW) under joined hands. Finish facing ptr in exchanged places.
- 11-12 Release hands. With 2 waltz steps, beginning R, make 1 turn in place (M turn R, W turn L).
- 13-16 Repeat action of CHORUS, meas 9-12, to return to original places, ptrs facing, M back to ctr.

II. CHIQUITE STEP WITH CROSS OVER

- 1-2 Dance 2 Chiquite steps with chug on L.
- 3 With 3 walking steps (RLR), ptrs exchange places, passing R shoulders by making 1/2 turn to R (CW). Finish ptrs facing in exchange places.
- 4-6 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 4-6.
- 7 With 3 walking steps (LRL), ptrs return to original places, passing L shoulders by making 1/2 turn to L (CCW). Finish ptrs facing, M back to ctr.
- 8 Step flat on R, pointing it twd ptr, no wt (cts 1-2). Chug on L (ct 3).
- 9-15 Repeat action of meas 1-7 (Fig II).
- 16 Step flat on R, pointing it twd ptr, no wt (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).

CHORUS

- 1-16 Repeat action of CHORUS as before (meas 1-16). At end of Chorus ptrs assume Varsouvienne pos, facing LOD, W to R of M.

III. CHIQUITE STEP IN VARSOUVIANNA POSITION

- 1-2 Dance 2 Chiquite Steps with chug on R. (This step is done in place).
- 3 With 3 walking steps (LRL), W move to M L side while M dances in place. Hands remain joined.
- 4 Step flat on R, toe pointed LOD, no wt (ct 1); hold (ct 2); chug on L (ct 3).
- 5-6 Dance 2 Chiquite Steps with chug on L.
- 7 With 3 walking steps (RLR), W move to M R side while he dances in place.
- 8 Step flat on L, with ft pointed LOD, no wt (ct 1); hold (ct 2); chug on R (ct 3).
- 9-14 Repeat action of meas 1-6 (Fig III).
- 15 With 3 steps (RLR), M make 1/4 turn R (CW), while W makes 1/4 turn L (CCW) under joined hands to finish ptrs facing, M back to ctr.
- 16 Step flat on L in place, taking wt (ct 1); releasing hands, hold (cts 2-3).

CHORUS

- 1-16 Repeat action of Chorus (meas 1-16). At end of Chorus ptrs take pos to repeat dance from beginning. Repeat entire dance.
NOTE: During meas 15-16 of the final CHORUS, retain joined R hands while W continues to turn L as in meas 13-14, making 2 more complete turns and ending in deep curtsey as M bows (R still joined).