

MINUET IN BEE

The minuet was a French Court dance, introduced at the time of Louis XIV. It was popular both throughout Europe and in the American Colonies during the eighteenth century. It should be danced with an elegant, upright bearing.

This version of the minuet is choreographed by Bee Drescher.

- MUSIC:** Record: Columbia M 30484 - "Favorite Airs and Dances from the Age of Elegance", Side 1, Band 1 (3/4 meter)
- FORMATION:** Cpls facing ctr in spokes of a wheel; W to M R, with arms extended diag sdwd, palms down, W L hand on M R. Free arms extended diag sdwd, palms down. (May be danced in a circle).
- STEPS and STYLING:** Rond de jambe: With R toe, trace 2 CW circles on the floor.
Relevé: With heels together and toes far apart, rise on balls of both ft.
Down: With ft. in same position, lower heels to floor, bending knees.
Honor, walk, run, Fan: (carried on W R wrist during dance) W open fan, fan self at about chest level.
Steps are same for M and W unless otherwise indicated.
Keep an elegant, upright feeling throughout.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures

Upbeat
cts 2 & 3 &

INTRODUCTION

I. PROMENADE AND HONOR

- 1-2 With inside hands joined and outside hands extended diag sdwd, palms down, dance L, R, L fwd twd ctr (cts 1, 2, 3).
Ronde de jambe R (cts 1, &), close R to L and relevé (ct 2), down (ct 3).
- 3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2.
- 5 Step R sdwd R (ct 1), close L to R (ct 2), bend knees to honor (ct 3).
- 6 Rise (ct 1); face ptr and take wt on MR - WL (ct 2); step sdwd twd ctr, ML - WR (ct 3).
- 7 Close free ft to supporting ft (ct 1), honor (ct 2), rise (ct 3).
- 8 Turn twd ptr 1/2 to face wall, new inside hands joined. Take wt on R (cts 1, 2, 3)
- 9-12 Repeat action of meas 1-4 moving twd wall.
- 13 Release hands, face ptr and step R sdwd R (ct 1); close L to R and W honor, W courtesy (ct 2); rise taking wt on L (ct 3).
- 14 Join R hand with ptr and step fwd on ball of R ft on a L diag (slightly R shldr to R shldr) twd ptr (ct 1); close L behind R, up on balls of ft (ct 2); hold (ct 3)
- 15 With R joined above shldr level, step L, R, L to turn 1/2 CW, EXCHANGING PLACES WITH PTR. Finish facing ptr, W facing LOD (cts 1, 2, 3)
- 16 Step R sdwd R (ct 1); close L to R and honor (ct 2); rise taking wt on L (ct &).

II. SIDEWARD

With arms extended sdwd, palms down, M move twd ctr, W twd wall.

- 1 Step R sdwd R (preliminary ct 3); step L back of R (ct 1); step R sdwd R (ct 2), L behind R (ct &), R sdwd R (ct 3), close L to R (ct &).
- 2 Releve (ct 1), down (ct 2).
- 3-4 Reverse action of meas 1-2 (Fig II). On last ct 3, rise and take wt on R, turning 1/4 twd ptr, to finish facing ctr, with inside hands joined, W to M L.

III. STAR

- 1-4 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-4, with M moving once around CCW in a L hand star, while W move in CW direction around M. M free hand behind hip, palm out; W R hand high twd star, L trailing diag bkwd.
- 5-7 Beg L, take 7 walking steps (one per ct) as W complete CW turn around M, to finish at ptr L with inside hands joined; then continue fwd twd ctr. On 7th step face ptr (release hands); M take 8th step R, and W touch R beside L; M step L sdwd L, W R sdwd R (last ct 3).
- 8 Close M R to L, W L to R and honor (ct 1); rise, both taking wt on R (ct 2).

IV. BALANCE

- 1 With hands behind back, palms out, step on full L sdwd L, moving in a CW arc around ptr (preliminary ct 3). Step ball of R ft behind L (ct 1), step on ball of L in place (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat balance step, reversing ftwk and direction.
- 3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig IV); hold (ct 3).

V. PROMENADE, TURN AND HONOR

- 1-4 Face ctr, W to M L and join inside hands. Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-4.
- 5 Face ptr, ML-WR hands still joined. Step R, L, R, as ptrs exchange places, W turning 1/2 CW under their joined hands (cts 1, 2, 3).
- 6 With hands still joined, face wall and move fwd LRL (cts 1, 2, 3).
- 7 Release hands. Dance R, L, R, M in place, W turning once CW in place (cts 1, 2, 3)
- 8 Step back on L, bending knee, R extended fwd on floor as M honors and W fans (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

VI. RUN WITH PARTNER

Join inside hands with ptr and face LOD, W to M R.

- 1 Begin R, dance 8 runs fwd LOD (cts 3 &, 1 &, 2 &, 3 &).
- 2-3 Step fwd on ball of R ft, bringing L to R (ct 1). Release hands. W only step on R turning 1/2 CCW to finish in front of and facing ptr (ct 2). Both step back on L, R extended fwd on floor as M honors and W fans (ct 3). Hold (cts 1, 2, 3).
- 4 Join R hands with ptr and step fwd on R (ct 1); bring L behind R ankle (ct 2); step back on L bending knee, with R extended fwd on floor (ct 3).
- 5 Tap ball of R ft on floor twice (cts 1, 2); step fwd on R (ct 3).
- 6 Bring L behind R ankle (ct 1); step bkwd on L (ct 2); tap R fwd on floor (ct 3).
- 7-8 Tap R fwd on floor again (ct 1). With R hand joined with ptr, turn once CW with R, L, R, L (cts 2, 3, 1, 2). On last ct W turn 1/2 CW to finish side by side with ptr with inside hands joined.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig VI), but turn individually in place CW at end to finish M facing LOD, W RLOD, W to M R.

VII. PROGRESSION

- 1 Beg R, M walk 3 step fwd and nod to oncoming W (preliminary ct 3, 1, 2). W begin R and run 4 steps fwd to new M and turn once CW in place with 2 more runs (cts 3 &, 1 &, 2 &).
- 2-4 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig VII) 3 more times, M alternating ftwk.
- 5 With new ptr, R shldrs adjacent, step R sdwd R (preliminary ct 3); close L to R (ct &), releve (ct 1), down, (ct 2).
- 6 Step L sdwd L (ct 3); close R to L (ct &), Releve (ct 1), down (ct 2).
- 7 Repeat action of meas 5 (Fig VII).
- 8 Both turn individually in place with R L to face LOD and touch R beside L (cts 3, 1, 2). Join inside hands with new ptr, W to M R.

VIII. RUN WITH PARTNER

- 1-8 Repeat action of Fig VI, meas 9-16, but finish with M facing RLOD, W facing LOD, W to M L.

IX. PROGRESSION RETURNING TO ORIGINAL PARTNER

- 1-4 Repeat action of Fig VII, meas 1-4.
- 5-7 Repeat action of Fig VII, meas 5-7 reversing ftwk and direction.
- 8 Repeat action of Fig VII, meas 8, exactly.

X. RUN WITH PARTNER AGAIN

- 1-6 Repeat action of Fig VI, meas 1-6, in LOD.
- 7-8 Tap R fwd on floor again (ct 1). Exchange places ptr stepping R, L, R, Touch L beside R (cts 2, 3, 1, 2), W turning CCW under joined R hands to finish on M R as they face the wall. Release hands and join new inside hands with ptr (ct 3).

XI. PROMENADE AND HONOR

- 1-8 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-6. On meas 7 move sdwd twd wall as M honors, W courtesy; meas 8, hold (cts 1, 2).

XII. BALANCE

- 1-4 Repeat action of Fig IV.

XIII. PROMENADE, M HONOR, W FAN

- 1-6 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-6, moving twd wall.
- 7 M hold, W rond de jambe ball of L ft CCW on floor (cts 1, 2); Both step back on L bending L knee, with R ft extended fwd on floor, as M honors and W fans (ct 3).
- 8 Hold pose (cts 1, 2, 3).