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THE POLISH MAZUR

The figures used in this dance were done by a Polish group at the World's Fair at San Francisco's Treasure Island. They were taught to Madelynn Greene, who arranged them to fit this record to be used as an exhibition dance for sets of four couples. There are many Mazur figures, just as we have many Square dance figures, and ordinarily the dancers would have a caller to follow. This arrangement is specifically an exhibition dance. It should be done vigorously, accurately, but not so stylized that it loses its feeling of vitality and "folk dancing."

MUSIC: Imperial "Mazur," No. 1206. (Directions for the Maciek on the reverse side are in *Let's Dance!* September 1951).

FORMATION: Circle of 8 or 12 couples, all facing CCW, W on R of M, inside hands joined, outside fists on hips. When used as an exhibition, couples may enter in a column using Figure I to form the circle.

STEPS: *Mazur Step*, an accented running step in 3/4 time. Accent the first beat of the measure by touching the opposite foot beside the supporting foot and bending the knees slightly, i.e., step forward on the L (ct. 1), touch R foot beside L, bending knees slightly (ct. and), this is the accent, step fwd. on R (ct. 2), step L (ct. 3). Repeat starting R. The steps are small and light.

According to Madelynn Greene, the above step is more authentic. When the dance was first taught the following step was used and is therefore more familiar to California folk dancers:

Mazur step, an accented running step to 3/4 time. Accent the first beat with a heavy step, bringing the opposite foot up sharply in back with a knee bend. On cts. 2 and 3 the steps are small and unaccented.

Mazur Turn—Partners face each other, right hips adjacent, R arm around partner's waist, L hands high; 2 Mazur steps turning CW, starting M L, W R. Reverse, placing L arm at partner's waist, R arm high, turn CCW with 2 Mazur steps.

Step-close with heel clicks: Starting M L, W R, step to side (ct. 1), close opposite foot to leading foot (ct. 2), jump on supporting foot, clicking heels together in air (ct. 3).

*Mazurka, *Pas de Basque.

MUSIC 3/4	PATTERN
Measures	
1-2	Introduction, stand in formation.
	I. <i>Balance and Click steps.</i>
1-4	a. Progressing forward in LOD with 4 Mazur steps, starting M L, W R, balance away from each other swinging joined inside hands forward, balance toward each other swinging hands back. Repeat away, together.
5-8	b. Face partners, release inside hands and sweep them down between partners and up, finishing with M R, W L, hands curved over head, outside fists remain on hips. At the same time take 4 step-close with heel click steps in LOD.
9-12	c. Mazur turn.
13-24	Repeat Fig. I, meas. 1-12.
	II. <i>Circle Right and Left.</i>
1-4	a. All join hands in single circle, facing R. Circle CCW with 4 Mazur steps, starting M L, W R.
5-8	b. W turn toward partners, Mazur turn.
9-12	c. Repeat Fig. II a, facing L and progressing CW.
13-16	4. M turn toward partners, Mazur turn.
	III. <i>Double Circle.</i>
1-4	a. All face center, with 4 Mazur steps W move forward forming small circle by linking arms at the elbows, fist on hips. If each W puts her L arm through the R elbow of the adjacent W, it avoids confusion.
	At the same time the M move in with 4 Mazur steps to join hands, arms extended to form the outer circle.
5-8	M circle L, W circle R with 3 Mazur steps, accent last meas. with 2 stamps.
9-12	c. Repeat Fig. III b, reversing direction, M circle R, W circle L.

POLISH MAZUR (Continued)

MUSIC 3/4	PATTERN
Measures	<i>Weaving the basket.</i>
1-2	On two chorded measures partners should be in place, W on R of M. W slide hands down, joining them to form a circle, M lift joined hands over W heads, forming a basket.
	IV. <i>The basket.</i>
1-8	a. Circle CW 7 Mazur steps all starting with L ft. Accent 8th meas. with 2 stamps.
9-16	b. Circle CCW 7 Mazur steps starting with R, 2 stamps on 16th meas.
	V. <i>Forming Lines.</i>
	The next two figures are done with M in one line, W in line facing partners, in groups of 4 couples. Couples number CW around circle 1, 2, 3, 4. For festival dancing, the two couples with backs nearest the music break the circle and swing back into line, all facing the music. For an exhibition, the couples with backs to the audience break the circle and all move into a line facing the audience.
1-8	a. W of couple 1 and M of last couple 4 release hands, and join them with own partners so all dancers are in a chain. The end couples move backward and the center couples slightly forward with 8 Mazur steps to form a straight line.
9-12	b. Release hands. M dance forward with 4 Mazur steps, turning to face partners on the last meas. Arms are crossed on chest. W turn CW in place, R hand on hip, L hand high. The lines should be 6 or 8 ft. apart with a space between each group of 4 couples.
	VI. <i>Solos.</i>
	Each couple does a solo while the other couples in the lines keep time with small Mazur steps in place, clapping their hands. M clap on the first beat, W on 2 and 3. This is supposed to be an impromptu step to show the skill of the dancers, however four figures are suggested and most used by dancers in California.
1-4	a. Couple 1 in each group dances down the center of the set with 4 Mazurka steps, facing each other, M L, W R hands high, other fist on hip.
5-8	2 Mazur steps backing even with lines, both fists on hips, elbows slightly forward. Dance toward each other 2 Mazurka steps.
9-12	Mazur turn at foot of group of four.
13-16	Couple 1 returns to place with 4 Mazur steps, M going up outside of M line, W outside W line.
	While couple 1 returns to place, couple 4 dances up the center of the lines; with inside hands joined, balance away, together, the W turns R under joined hands to face partner.
17-20	Mazur turn at head of sets.
21-24	Couple 4 returns to own place with 4 Mazur steps, each going down outside of respective lines.
	While couple 4 returns to place, couple 2 dances down the center of the set with 4 step-close heel clicks.
25-28	Couple 2 does Mazur turn at foot of set.
29-32	Couple 2 returns to place with 4 Mazur steps, dancing up the outside of respective lines.
	While couple 2 returns to place, couple 3 dances up the center of the set with inside hands joined, free hands on hips, balance away, together, away together with 4 Mazur steps.
33-36	Couple 3 does Mazur turn at head of set.
37-40	Couple 3 returns to place with 4 Mazur steps, outside respective lines.
	VII. <i>The Tunnel.</i>
1-16	On two chorded measures all face the head of the set, inside hands joined high. M of head couple leads the line under the tunnel made by the joined hands. He turns R under his R arm, L fist on hip, R hand joined with partner's L. W of head couple takes the L hand of the next M in her R, drawing him after her into the tunnel. Each W does this in turn. All dance forward with Mazur steps, and then

POLISH MAZUR (Continued)

MUSIC 3/4	PATTERN
Measures	
	<p>join the line. When the leading man reaches the end of the tunnel, he leads the line CW into a circle. He must time his steps to join hands with the last W on the 16th meas.</p>
	<p>VIII. <i>Modified Pas-de-basque.</i></p>
1-12	<p>Release hands in circle, partners face CCW in Varsouvienne position, hands joined high. Take 12 pas-de-basques keeping feet close to the floor. Both start with L foot so first pas-de-basque is away from center of circle.</p>
	<p>IX. <i>Women's Star.</i></p>
1-8	<p>With 3 Mazur steps W dance CW toward center of circle into an open R hand star, accent 4th meas. with 2 stamps (R arms extended slightly above shoulder high, hands not quite touching). With 4 Mazur steps reverse with an open L hand star. While W spiral into circle and out, M dance backward with 3 Mazur steps, 2 stamps on 4th. Forward with 4 Mazur steps arms crossed high on chest.</p>
9-12	<p>Meet partners and Mazur turn.</p>
	<p>X. <i>Men's Star.</i></p>
1-12	<p>The M spiral CW toward center of circle to form an open R hand star, 7 Mazur steps and 2 stamps. Reverse and form open L hand star and return to partner with 4 Mazur steps.</p> <p>W dance backward with 7 Mazur steps, moving arms gracefully first toward partners, then backward toward waist. On meas. 8 place both fists on hips and stamp twice. Move forward, moving arms alternately forward and back, 4 Mazur steps.</p>
13-16	<p>Turn partner 4 Mazur steps to R. <i>Do not reverse.</i></p>
	<p>XI. <i>Polka Mazurka—Kneel and pose.</i></p>
1-4	<p>Partners in open position, facing CCW, inside hands joined, outside fists on hips. 2 Mazur steps balancing away from each other and toward each other. With 2 Mazur steps W turns R under joined hands to finish facing partner, both hands joined.</p>
5-8	<p>4 Mazur steps moving LOD, M forward, W backward.</p>
9-12	<p>M kneels on L knee and leads girl around him CCW holding her L hand in his R. Girl does 3 Mazur steps to circle M, on 4th meas. she turns and sits on M's R knee. R hands joined at W's R hip, both L hands held high with a shout.</p>