

SCHOTTIS
(Mexican Miner's Schottis)

This is a typical dance of the mining people in the central region of Mexico (The State of Zacatecas). This particular form was observed in 1944 and was performed at parties and family groups. It is a popular country dance and the costumes are of the simple "ranchero" type. -- Avis Landis

Music Record: Victor 25-1057B (Alice y San Diego)
 Bluebird B-3173-B (Alice y San Diego)
 Bluebird 3192B (El Jilquero)
 Piano: El Barretero (Arranged by Plutarco, J. Barreiro)

Formation Couples in large circle, facing in line of direction.

Steps Modified Schottische Step (see below), Step-hops.

Music (4/4)	Pattern
Measure	I. <u>Schottische and W Turn</u> (Directions are for M; W steps with opposite ft.)
A 1 - 4	Partners face each other, hands joined and held at about chest height, with arms extended to sides, elbows slightly bent. Partners move first to M's L, with one schottische step, repeat back to R, then L, then R (4 schottische steps in all). The schottische step in this dance is done as follows: Turning slightly to L and moving L; lift L ft. about 6 in. above floor (up beat) and step flat on L with accent (ct. 1,) step R slightly ahead of L (ct. 2), step L ahead of R (ct. 3), hop on L and turn hips to prepare for movement to R (ct. 4). Knees are slightly bent during this action. Steps are fairly short, so that space covered is small. Partner's shoulders remain almost parallel, but hips are turned to L. The action is similar for the schottische step moving to R. The body is inclined slightly in the direction of movement. In effect, in this step and certain other figures, the W leads by giving a strong pull with the leading hand.
5 - 8	M releases W's R hand, but continues to face his partner; M does 6 step-hops progressing slowly fwd., while W does 6 step-hops, turning once to her L under M's R arm; both finish facing each other with one further step and two stamps in place (for M; step L, stamp R, stamp L and hold. The step-stamp-stamp takes the last measure.) (W watches partner as she turns).
9 - 16	Repeat action of meas. 1-8. <u>Note:</u> Start to M's L.
	II. <u>Schottische Wheel</u>
B 1 - 2	Partners face, approximately in line of direction, M's R and W's L hand joined. W takes one schottische step diagonally outward to her R away from M, so that arms are fully extended at end of step; M does small schottische step in place. With a strong pull, M pulls W back to a position in front of him; M does small schottische in place and W does a vigorous schottische and covers considerable space. M makes a one-quarter turn during this action and the step is finished with partners side by side facing toward the center of the large circle.
3 - 4	W schottisches away and back so that another quarter-turn is made and at the end of meas. 4 the couple is facing opposite to the line of direction.
5 - 8	The action of meas. 1 and 2 are repeated two more times, the couple making a quarter-turn each time. At the end of meas. 8, the couple is again facing in the line of direction.
9 - 16	Repeat action of meas. 1-8. <u>Note:</u> In this figure the M acts as the hub and the W dances out as if along the spokes of a wheel. W swings her skirt with R hand during this step.
	III. <u>Random Schottische</u>
A 1 - 16	Partners face each other, join both hands and do 16 schottische steps

SCHOTTIS (con't.)

Music (4/4)	Pattern
Measure	
	of same basic form as given in meas. 1 and 2 of Fig. 1, except the action is freer and less restrained. In fairly small groups the couples move at random, taking care to finish so that couples are again in place in large circle with M on inside with back to center. In large groups, to prevent confusion, the following pattern is suggested: Schottische fwd. and back so that the direction of movement is rotated about one-quarter turn after each schottische step.
B 1 - 4	<p>IV. <u>Alternating Dishrag Turn</u> Partners face each other with hands joined and held extended in an arch above heads. Starting with his L ft., the M makes a dishrag turn to his L with 4 step-hops while the W does 4 step-hops in place, starting with the R. (The W leads the M into his turn at the same time watching the M and dancing in place.) As M completes his 4 step-hops he looks over his L shoulder and begins to turn the W with a dishrag turn to her R. Now the W turns while doing step-hops; R, L, R, L, and the M dances in place with 4 step-hops; L, R, L, R. (The M now watches the W as she turns.) This step is flirtatious and partners continue to look at each other as they perform the dishrag turn. <u>Note:</u> The dancers progress fwd. in the line of direction in doing this pattern. Repeat action 3 more times (4 patterns in all).</p>
A 1 - 16	<p>V. <u>Random Schottische</u> Repeat as in Fig. III meas. 1-16.</p>
B 1 - 16	<p>VI. <u>Alternating Dishrag Turn</u> Repeat alternating dishrag turn as in Fig. IV.</p>
A 1 - 2	<p>VII. <u>Coquette Step-hops</u> (La Coqueta) Partners face each other, M with back to center, hands clasped in back, W holding skirt. Starting M's L, W's R, partners take 2 step-hops away from each other and continuing to move away stamp (L, R, L and hold for 1 ct. for M; and R, L, R, and hold 1 ct. for W.) <u>Note:</u> W holds skirts with hands extended to side and shakes skirts in Mexican manner on the stamp and hold.) 3 - 4 Repeat above action toward partner back to place (M moving away from center, W towards center.) Start with L ft. for M and R ft. for W. 5 - 8 Repeat all of above action.</p>
A 9 - 16	<p>VIII. <u>Random Schottische</u> Repeat random schottische (8 schottisches only) as in Fig. III and end with accent on last schottische (M's L and W's R.)</p>
	<p><u>Note:</u> When the entire dance is repeated, modifications are sometimes introduced in certain of the figures.</p>
	<p>Fig. I Four running schottisches are used, with couples in open position, M placing L hand in back and W holding skirt in R hand (4 meas.), then in ballroom position couples take 8 step-hops turning while progressing and away from side to side in a rollicking manner (4 meas.). Repeat the action for 8 meas. In the running schottische a sharp forward bend is taken at the beginning of each schottische step.</p>
	<p>Fig. III Variation is similar as variation for Fig. I in position and in use of running schottische. In the 8 step-hops W turns twice under the M's R arm.</p>