

SLOVENIAN WEDDING DANCE AND POLKA

(Svatbeni Rejc & Svatbena Polka)

This dance (pronounced Svahd'-beh-nee Raytz & Svahd'-beh-nah Polka) comes from the region of Carinthia, part of which is now included in Austria (Kärnten). It was learned by Dick Crum from native folk dancers in Ljubljana, Slovenia (Yugoslavia) and taught by him at the 1959 College of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, Calif. This is really two different dances - the first rather slow, solemn and sedate in 3/4 time, and the second or polka is sprightly and gay in 2/4 time. The polka is generally danced following the wedding dance, so both have been included on the record.

MUSIC: Record: Folk Dancer, MH 3033A "Svatbeni Rejc & Svatbena Polka".

FORMATION: Cpls in a double circle facing LOD, W on inside on ML. Hands are joined R in R, L in L (promenade pos) with ML over WR.

STEPS: Walk*, Waltz Balance*, Polka*.
**Described in "Folk Dances From Near and Far", Vols. I-VIII.*

MUSIC: 3/4, 2/4

PATTERN

Meas
3/4 4

PART I. WEDDING DANCE

Introduction

I. PROMENADE

Upbeat

Raise joined hands high in front.

1 Both step R fwd LOD (ct 1). Step L fwd and both pivot 1/2 CCW to face RLOD, W turning under joined hands (ct 2). W is now on MR, but still on inside of circle. Flex knees in this pos, ft together (ct 3).

2 Again starting R, repeat action of meas 1, but moving RLOD and turning 1/2 CW.

3-4 Keeping hands joined high, starting R, W turn once in a circle CCW in front of M with 6 walking steps to end in same place at ML as before circling. M always facing LOD follows W circular movement by describing a smaller CCW circle walking 3 steps fwd, 3 bwd. Lower arms after W turns to end with ML under WR.

5 Raise arms again on upbeat. Both step R fwd LOD (ct 1).

Step L fwd and both pivot 3/8 CW so that M passes under joined R hands and W is directly in back of M, both facing diag out of ctr twd RLOD, L in L and R in R held high over M shoulders (ct 2). Flex knees in this pos, ft together (ct 3).

6 Step RL fwd (cts 1,2). Step fwd R, M only turning 1/2 CCW backing under joined R hands to end facing ptr with joined R above L (ct 3).

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(continued)

- 7-8 Starting L, W turn once under joined hands in a circle CW in front of M with 6 walking steps, while M follows W as in meas 3-4 with 3 steps fwd and 2 bwd, holding last ct. Release L hands and put them on hips to finish M facing LOD, W RLOD with joined R hands held slightly twd ctr of circle. No progress has been made in LOD.
- Fast II. BALANCE AND TURN
- 9 Waltz balance away from ctr, starting MR, WL, swinging joined R hands out. These steps are light, done on the toes.
- 10 Waltz balance in twd ctr, ML, WR, swinging joined hands inward.
- 11 M dance one waltz balance, starting R, as W turns quickly once CCW under joined R hands, stepping LRL.
- 12 Waltz balance in place, ML, WR.
- 13-14 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 9-10.
- 15-16 Starting L, W turn once CCW under joined R hands in a small circle in front of M with 6 steps to ending in same place as before circling. M follows W with 6 walking steps, 3 fwd LOD, 3 bwd RLOD, starting R.
(retard)
- 17-20 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 13-16.
- 9 -20 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 9-20.
(repeat)
- Repeat entire wedding dance 3 times omitting last repeat of meas 9-20. No progression in LOD should have been made at the completion of the Wedding Dance.

PART II. WEDDING POLKA

- 2/4
- 1 In open ballroom pos with joined hands extended straight fwd in LOD, starting ML, WR, dance one polka LOD, lowering joined hands and bending body along with them.
- 2 Dance one polka LOD, raising joined hands high and leaning back a little.
- 3 Polka in place, turning 1/4 CCW to look twd ctr of circle.
- 4 Polka in place, turning 1/4 CW.
- Continue to polka as above freely around the room to end of record.