

## Tehuantepec (Mexico)

Tehuantepec (tay-WAHN-tay-pek) was learned by Albert S. Pill from Casilda Amador of Claremont, California. He presented this dance at the 1959 Statewide Institute, at an "Al Pill Institute" at Oakland High School on June 28, 1959, and later that summer at the Santa Barbara Conference.

RECORDS: National N-45; Sombrero 455; Peerless 4262. 3/4 meter

FORMATION: Cpls in a circle, ptrs facing; M back to ctr with hands clasped behind his back. W, holding skirt a few inches above hemline, bringback of hands together, close to body at about waist level.

STEPS and STYLING: Balance Step (1 to 2 meas): Step on R diag fwd to R (ct 1); step on ball of L ft near R instep (ct 2); hold (ct 3); rise on ball of R ft (meas 2, ct 1); hold (ct 2); lower heels ending with wt on R (ct 3). Step alternates.  
Skirt action: Hold skirt as described in Formation.

Chiapanecas Step (Traveling) (1 to 4 meas): Step on L (ct 1); chug fwd on L (ct 2); step fwd on R in front of L (ct 3); step in place on L (meas 2, ct 1); chug bkwd on L (ct 2); step bkwd on R behind L (ct 3); step in place on L (meas 3, ct 1); chug fwd on L (ct 2); step fwd on R (ct 3); run fwd with 3 light stamping steps L,R,L (meas 4, cts 1,2,3). Step alternates.

Skirt action: Meas 1: R skirt comes fwd and L skirt bkwd. Meas 2: L skirt comes fwd and R skirt bkwd. Meas 3: R skirt comes fwd and L skirt bkwd. Meas 4: L skirt comes fwd. Action is reversed for next step.

Chiapanecas Step (In Place) (1 to 4 meas): Same as Chiapanecas Step (Traveling) except that the 3 stamping steps are done in place.

Skirt action: Same as Chiapanecas Step (Traveling).

Chiapanecas Step (Turning) (1 to 4 meas): Same as Chiapanecas Step (Traveling) except that the 3 stamping steps become a three-step turn (no stamps) in place. Turn to L (CCW) when steps begins with L; turn to R (CW) when step begins with R.

Skirt action: Same as Chiapanecas Step (Traveling) except that the skirt is held out to sides during the turn.

Waltz With Stamp (1 to 2 meas): Moving in designated direction, step on L (ct 1); step on ball of R (ct 2); step on L (ct 3); stamp ball of R (heel raised) near L instep (meas 2, ct 1); hold (cts 2,3). Step alternates.

Skirt action: Move skirt naturally from side to side.

Tehuana Waltz Pattern (1 to 4 meas): Movement is fwd (2 meas) and bkwd (2 meas). Step fwd on L (ct 1); step on ball of R ft near L (ct 2); step fwd on L (ct 3); touch point of R toe (heel up) on floor in back of L (meas 2, ct 1); hold (cts 2,3). Moving bkwd, step on R (meas 3, ct 1); step on ball of L near R (ct 2); step bkwd on R, making 1/4 turn CW (ct 3); touch L toe (heel up) on floor near R toe (meas 4, ct 1); hold (cts 2,3).

Skirt action: Hold skirt outstretched to sides.

Circling Brush Step (1 to a meas): Step on L ft (ct 1); with wt still on L, brush R ft on floor in a CW circle (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3). Step repeats exactly. Step may begin on R ft with L ft circling CCW.

Skirt action: Move R hand (holding skirt) in a circular pattern matching the path made by the R ft. Move L hand (and skirt) when L ft circles.

Ftwk same for M and W throughout dance.

I. BALANCE STEPS

- A 1-8 Beg R, move fwd twd ptr with 4 Balance Steps.  
9-16 Beg R, move bkwd away from ptr with 4 Balance Steps. At end of last Balance Step, shift wt onto R ft.

II. CHIAPANECAS STEPS - TRAVELING AND IN PLACE

- B 1-4 Beg L, dance 1 Chiapanecas Step (Traveling) to exchange places with ptr, passing R shldr on the 3 stamping steps.  
5-8 Beg R ft, dance 1 Chiapanecas Step (Traveling) turning in place on the 3 stamping steps to face ptr.  
9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 to return to own place.  
17-20 Beg L ft, dance 1 Chiapanecas Step (In Place).  
21-22 Beg R, repeat meas 17-18 (half a Chiapanecas Step).  
23-24 In place, dance 4 light stamps R,L,R,L (cts 1,2,3,1); hold (cts 2,3). No wt on last stamp on L.

III. WALTZ WITH STAMP

Ptrs remain close together as they make a CW circle around each other.

- C 1-2 Beg L ft, dance 1 Waltz With Stamp step moving 1/4 of the way around the CW circle. Turn to own L (1/4 CCW) to end back-to-back with ptr (meas 1). As R ft is stamped, look over L shldr at ptr.  
3-4 Beg R ft, dance 1 Waltz With Stamp step almost in place, turning to own R (meas 3) to end facing ptr.  
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 traveling another 1/4 way around the CW circle. Ptrs have now exchanged places.  
9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 to finish in orig place.

IV. CHIAPANECAS STEP - TURNING

- B 1-4 Beg L ft, dance 1 Chiapanecas Step (Turning). Turn L (CCW) on the 3 light stamps.  
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and turning R (CW).  
9-12 Repeat meas 1-4.  
13-16 Repeat Fig II, meas 21-24 (half a Chiapanecas Step and 4 light stamps). No wt on last stamp on L. Finish facing in LOD, W to R of ptr. M put R arm around W waist, L arm down at side. W hold skirt outstretched to sides.

V. TEHUANA WALTZ

- D 1-4 Beg L ft, dance 1 Tehuana Waltz Pattern moving fwd and back in LOD. End with back to ctr.  
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 but moving away from and bkwd twd ctr. End facing RLOD (CW).  
9-12 Repeat meas 1-4 but moving fwd and back in RLOD. End facing ctr.  
13-16 Repeat meas 1-4 but moving twd and away from ctr. End facing LOD. M release ptr and clasp hands behind back. W still hold skirt.

VI. CIRCLING BRUSH STEPS

- E 1-6 Beg L ft, make an individual 3/4 turn (M CCW, W CW) with 6 Circling Brush Steps. End facing ptr, M back to ctr.

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- 7-8 In place, dance 4 light stamps L,R,L,R (cts 1,2,3,1); hold (cts 2,3). Take no wt on last stamp on R.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 with opp ftwk and direction but make a full circle (M CW, W CCW) on the Circling Brush Steps. Take no wt on last stamp on L. At end face LOD and take pos for Tehuana Waltz.
- 32 meas REPEAT FIG V AND VI. Take wt on last stamp. Emd facing ptr.
- 8 meas BALANCE STEPS Repeat Fig I, meas 9-16.
- 56 meas REPEAT FIG II, III, IV.
- On final 4 stamping steps of Fig IV move twd ptr to finish side-by-side facing LOD, M with R arm around W waist, W holding skirt out to sides.

Description written August 1984.

