

LA BOULANGERE

(The Baker's Wife) - French

Folkraft Record F - 1091 B -- (a)

La Boulangere is one of the very old French dances. Several much older versions exist. The Catalans also have a dance by the same name but while the French song has only two verses the Catalans have over a dozen.

Stand in square formation (four couples). Join hands.

Skip to left 8 steps.

Reverse to right 8 skips.

During the next three measure interlude release hands, face partners, girls slowly curtsy as boys bow. (See "Aupres De ma Blonde" Curtsy.)

Couple No. 1 join right hands, shoulder high, elbows slightly bent, and skip around each other with four skips. With left hand boy No. 1 takes the left hand of girl No. 4 (to his left), while girl No.1 takes left hand of boy No. 2 (to her right), and skip around with new partners four skips. Immediately boy and girl No. 1 return to each other clasping right hands and skip around with four steps, while at the same time, the side couples, Nos. 2 and 4, join right hands with their own partners and skip around in place. Then couple No. 1 dance with the couple across -- No. 3, joining left hands, No. 1 boy with No. 3 girl, No. 1 girl with No. 3 boy, skip around each other (side couples stand still and clap own hands). Couple No. 1 joins right hands again and skip around each other moving toward their home position.

Whenever a couple is free, clap own hands.

Repeat the entire dance, with couple No. 2 doing the visiting. Then couple No. 3, and couple No. 4.

Finish dance with the interlude.