

Corrido

(Mexican)

The Mexican Corrido is a true folk ballad. Historically this form descended from the Spanish romance which flourished most brilliantly during the 14th and 15th centuries in Spain. The earliest Mexican example that bears a date was issued in Mexico City on August 19, 1684.

The music for secular folk dances is in the form of songs. This dance, Corrido, has developed from the ballad form. Three characteristic steps are noted in this dance: “soldado,” a soldier style of dancing from the revolutionary days; a dipping step commonly called the “grapevine;” and a typical sideward step-close.

Avis Landis, a member of the Research Committee of the Folk Dance Federation of California, introduced this dance to the Federation. Avis, who has been an active dancer and leader in the local Mexican colony in Oakland, danced Corrido in various parts of Mexico.



Pronunciation: coh-REE-doh

Music: 4/4 meter Record: Mexican Columbia 1613-C (with vocal),
Emperial 1137 (no vocal); Special 2012 Camp CD,
Track 1

Formation: A double circle of couples in closed dance position, M with back to ctr, W facing ctr.

Steps & Styling: Step-close: Step L to L (ct 1); step R next to L (ct 2). Can be done with opp ftwk and direction.

Grapevine (Mexican dipping step): (described for M; W beg with opp ft) Step R in front of L (ct 1); step L to L (ct 2); step R behind L (ct 3); step L to L (ct 4).

Meas 4/4 meter Pattern

I. STEP-CLOSE, MOVING SIDEWARD.

1-5 In closed pos, cpls move CW with 10 Step-close steps (M beg R, W beg L). The hips sway easily in typical Mexican fashion, causing trailing shoulder to dip slightly on ct 1 and the leading shoulder to dip slightly on ct 2.

II. GRAPEVINE (MEXICAN DIPPING STEP)

1-7 “Eso Si” Beg with M’s R and W’s L seven Grapevine steps moving CCW.

8 Step R across L (ct 1); stamp L in place (with wt) (ct 2); stamp R (no wt) (ct 3); hold (ct 4). (W does the same with opp ftwk.)

Corrido — continued

III. STEP-CLOSE AND SOLDADO

- 1-2 In closed pos dance four Step-close steps moving CW.
- 3 Starting with M's R and W's L, cpls move twd ctr with 4 steps, M bkwd, W fwd. The step is a relaxed shuffle step, keeping ft on floor.
- 4 Repeat meas 3 moving away from ctr and slightly diag to M's L.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 3-4 twice, continuing to move twd and away from ctr, at the same time progressing CCW.
- 9 Repeat meas 3.
- 10 Moving away from ctr of circle, M step fwd R (ct 1); stamp L (ct 2); stamp R (ct 3); hold (ct 4). (W uses opp ft.)

IV. GRAPEVINE

- 1-8 Repeat Fig II.

REPETITION WITH VARIATIONSI. STEP-CLOSE, MOVING SIDEWARD.

- 1-5 Same as Fig I above.

II. CROSS STEP WITH ONE TURN

Ptrs facing, M hands clasped behind back, R hand holding L wrist, W hold skirt at sides. M move L, W move R.

- 1 "Eso Si" Step R in front of L with accent, lifting L off floor in back (ct 1); step L in place (ct 2); step R beside L (ct 3); step L in front of R with accent, lifting R off floor in back (ct 4). Shldrs point alternately twd ptr.
- 2 M: 4-step turn to L away from ptr starting R in back of L. W turns R away from ptr, starting L in back of R.
- 3-6 Repeat meas 1-2 twice.
- 7 Repeat meas 1.
- 8 Facing ptr, M step R behind L (ct 1); stamp fwd L (with wt) (ct 2); stamp R beside L (no wt); hold. (W does the same with opp ftwk.)

III. STEP-CLOSE AND SOLDADO

- 1-10 Same as Fig III above.



IV. GRAPEVINE WITH TWO TURNS

1-8 Ptrs face each other, holding R hands at shldr level, M's L hand held in back. W's L hand holds skirt. Progressing CCW, M does Grapevine steps throughout as in Fig II (basic version), while turning ptr with joined hands on meas 2, 4, 6, and 8.

W dances as follows:

<u>Meas</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
1	1 Grapevine step
2	2 turns R in 4 steps (R, L, R, L).
3-6	Repeat meas 1-2 twice.
7	1 Grapevine step
8	Turn R with two steps (L, R) (ct 1-2); facing ptr, stamp L (with wt) (ct 3); stamp R (ct 4).

SECOND REPETITION

This is performed exactly as the first time through the dance, with a slight variation in Fig IV as follows:

Cpls hold inside hands for Grapevine step; W holds skirt with outside hand, M has outside hand in back. W accentuates movement of skirt with R hand and the dance ends with sharp stamps.

Presented by Bruce Mitchell