

"FJÄSKERN (HURRY-SCURRY)
(Sweden)

Fjäskern (Fyess-kehrn), Hurry-Scurry, is a folk dance circle mixer mainly from southern Sweden. Here is a little mixer dance, simple enough for the first number at an initial session of beginners, yet exciting enough to provide hilarious fun for even the most calloused oldtimers. Secret: the music accelerates from almost ridiculously slow to nearly (but not quite) impossibly fast.

Source: As learned in Sweden in 1950 by Gordon E. Tracie and taught at Skandia Folkdance Club, Seattle.
Described in Samkväms and Gillesdanser Stockholm, 1950.

Record: Aqua Viking V200B

Formation: Cpls in circle, M on inside, W on outside, beg facing LOD.
Open hands, when joined, at shoulder level; free hands always on hips Swedish style (fingers fwd, thumb back).

Steps: Walking, Running, and Kicking steps
Footwork is the same for M and W. Throughout the entire dance there is a simple L-R alternation of the ft, without stop.

Styling: Sprightly and with humor.

Measures Pattern
(4/4)

I. Circle Fwd and Back
1 - 4 Inside hands joined, beg on L ft, cpls move fwd in LOD
16 steps.*
1 - 4 Turning around individually, twd ptr, other hands are joined,
and cpls move back in opp direction in similar manner
with 16 steps.

II. Kick and Exchange Places
5 Facing ptr squarely, M on inside, W on outside of circle,
both hands on own hips, cpls dance 4 kicking steps, beg
with wt on L ft (kicking out R ft).
6 With handclap on 1st beat, ptrs change places with 4 running
steps, moving about CW while facing each other (as if
hands were joined).
7 - 8 Repeat the action of meas 5-6 to return to own place.
5 - 8 Repeat the action of meas 5-8 above.
Repeat the entire dance from the beg.

Ptr change is effected as sequence begins with Fig I.
Simplest way is for M to move fwd to next W, inasmuch
as being on inside of circle, M has shorter distance to go.
In Scandinavia, however, W often moves fwd to next M.
*For the 1st two sequences, walking steps will be used
during Fig I, succeeding sequences will be running steps.

Presented by: Gordon E. Tracie

Folk Dance Camp, 1962