

LA RASPA

(Mexican couple dance or mixer)

Translation: The Rasp or File.

Record: Folkraft 1119x45A.

Formation: Couples scattered anywhere in the dance area.

Starting Position: Partners facing, both hands joined with arms extended forward at shoulder height.

Music 2/4

Measure

PART I — La Raspa step (Music AA)

- 1-2 Three LA RASPA STEPS starting with right foot and right arm forward (counts 1-3), pause (count 4).
- 3-4 REPEAT pattern of measures 1-2 reversing footwork and elbow action.
- 5-16 REPEAT pattern of measures 1-2 three more times (4 times in all).

PART II — Elbow Swing (Music BB)

- 17-20 Partners ELBOW SWING (Right) once around with skips or running steps (counts 1-7), release elbows and clap own hands (count 8).
- 21-24 Partners ELBOW SWING (Left) and clap in the same manner.
- 25-32 REPEAT pattern of measures 17-24.

— AS MIXER —

As above except:

Formation: Single circle of couples, partners facing, boy facing line-of-dance (counterclockwise) and girl the reverse.

- 17-20 Clap own hands once (count 1), then ELBOW SWING (Right) with partner once around with skips or running steps, and progress once place, boy advancing in line-of-dance (counterclockwise) and girl the reverse (counts 2-8).
- 21-24 ELBOW SWING (Left) with next person then progress to the next in the same manner.
- 25-28 ELBOW SWING (Right) with next person then progress to the next in the same manner.
- 29-32 ELBOW SWING (Left) with last person then progress to new partner in the same manner.

REPEAT ENTIRE DANCE WITH NEW PARTNER.

LA RASPA STEP (♩): A slight leap on left foot in place, sliding right foot forward, thrusting right arm forward and pulling left elbow backward (count 1), replace and a slight leap on right foot in place, sliding left foot forward and reversing arm action (count 2), etc.

ELBOW SWING (Right): Hook right elbows and turn clockwise in place with steps indicated. Elbow Swing (left): Same except hook left elbows and turn counterclockwise.