

BROIGES TANZ (Eastern European Jewish Dance)

Originally an improvised courtship-dance for two, in which the boy and girl would pretend to quarrel and then make up, the Broiges Tanz is now widely done as a square dance.

Formation: Square set of four couples.

Part One 1--8 All couples face ccr, ladies on left of partners, with inside hands joined. Ladies hold skirts with free left hand; men have right hand behind back.

Starting R, all walk fwd three steps (R-L-R) and then, bending right knee, swing L fwd, pointing toe. Repeat, L-R-L, and point right toe. Do eight times in all.

Part Two 1--8 Partners face each other, ladies with backs to ctr, holding skirts with hands. Men have hands behind back. Step to own right with three steps (R-L-R) and stamp L. Step to own left (L-R-L) and stamp R. Turn in place to right, with four slow steps, R-L-R-L. Repeat action in reverse, moving to left, to right, and turning slowly in place to left.

Part Three 1--8 Ladies form a left-hand star, by holding corners of large colored handkerchief. They do action of Part One, moving ccw, as men, facing ctr, do first part of Part Two, moving to right and to left, four full times.

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- Part Four 1--4 Partners face each other, join right hands. They take three steps fwd (R-L-R) and stamp L, and three steps bwd (L-R-L) and stamp R. They change places with four slow steps, lady turning under joined hands.
- 5--8 Repeat action fwd and bwd, and then turn in place to right with four slow steps, not crossing over, so men remain in ctr.
- Part Five 1--8 As in Part Three, men do a left-hand star, as ladies do the side-step and stamp, to right and left, four times.
- Part Six 1--8 Repeat action of Part Four. Go fwd, stamp, bwd, stamp, and cross over with four slow steps. Repeat fwd and bwd and end dance by holding joined hands high, turning slightly to left in place with two slow steps and looking over left shoulder at partner.

Note: Whenever partners have hands joined, they :
ends of a colored handkerchief instead.

BROIGES TANZ

Bist du salt mir broigee
Veys ich nit farvos,
Geyst arum a gantz tog
Aropgelost dem noz.
Efsher vilst du visn
Az ich hob dich lib
Lomir beyde ariberform
Tzu dem gutn yid.

Tzu a gutn yidn
A piden im opgehn
Zol er far undtz Got betn
Oyf a gut lebn.
Un az mir vein kumen
Tzurik fun gutn yid,
Vein mir beyde ariberform
In Zelve oyfn yarid.

Dort vel ich dir koyfn
A keyger mit a keit
Un a sheine groyse shtik
Zayns oyf a kleyd,
To zay she mer nit broigee
Un greyt oyfglich tzum tish
Un setz zich mit mir esn,
Bakumst du mir a kish.

BROIGES TANZ

I don't know why you're angry at me
And why you walk around all day
With a sour face.
Maybe you want me to prove that I love you...
Then let us go visit the pious Jew.

A token of our faith
We'll give to the pious Jew,
And he'll pray to God
For a happy life for us.
And when we'll come back from the visit,
Then I'll take you to the Zelva Fair.

Over there I'll buy you
A nice watch with a chain,
And a nice piece of silk, for a dress.
So don't be so angry,
And set the table,
Then sit right beside me and eat with me,
And I shall give you a kiss.

Music & Lyrics: Traditional
Adapted & Arranged by D. Seltzer

