

ESPUNYOLET -- Catalonia

(ehss-poo-nyoh-leht) . . .

(Couple Dance)

Record: Folkraft LP (side A band 4).

Formation: Couples in a circle.

Starting Position: Partners facing, woman holding skirt (traditionally with her index and middle fingers), man's arms raised with hands slightly above head level.

Music 3/4
Measure

INTRODUCTION

1-2 REVERANCE: Man clasp hands behind back and bow (woman curtsy) to partner (counts 1-6).

PART I - (Music A)

1-6 Turn slightly left with a small STEP forward on right foot, bending knees slightly and raising left foot backward (count 1), A small STEP backward on left foot (count 2), STEP on right foot beside left and turn body slightly right to re-face partner (count 3), and . . . repeat five more times (6 times in all), alternating footwork and lateral direction.

7-8 REVERANCE as introduction above.

9-16 REPEAT measures 1-8.

PART II (Music A)

17-22 Partners facing, each with right hand grasping other's right forearm, woman's left hand holding her skirt and man's left hand behind his back:

A very small STEP forward on right foot bending knees slightly (count 1), STEP on ball of left foot beside right heel (count 2), STEP on right foot (very slightly backward) beside left (count 3), and . . . repeat five more times (6 times in all), alternating footwork, circling clockwise half around partner to exchange places.

23-24 REVERANCE as Introduction above.

25-32 REPEAT measures 17-24 and return to original place, except circling counterclockwise with left hand grasping partner's left forearm.

PART III (Music B)

33-34 Partners join both hands and woman kneel on right knee (counts 1-3), Woman bow her head (count 4) then rise and face partner (counts 5-6),
35-36 REPEAT measures 33-34 reversing roles (man kneel, bow, etc.). Then man's left hand release woman's right hand.

37-38 Two WALTZ STEPS (left, right) turning left half around, partners passing back to back turning "dishrag" style under joined hands (man's right, woman's left) to exchange places.

39-40 REVERANCE as Introduction above.

41-48 REPEAT measures 33-40 and return to original position.

REPEAT entire dance at a faster tempo and, during measures 1-6 and 9-14, man snap fingers (woman does not).

NOTE: This wedding dance, a "ball de cerimonia", seems to be more popular with Catalans on the French side of the border where it is spelled Espugnalette (pronounced as above).