

FLACHSERNTEN - Germany

MF-2, B-5

Flachsernten, which tells of the harvesting of the flax, was introduced by Waltraud Herrmann. The melody originally came from Sweden, but the text, verse and dance are from northern Germany.

FORMATION: Circle of couples, all facing center, W to R of M, all hands joined at shoulder height.

STEPS: Walk waltz: three walking steps to each measure.  
Note: This step is used throughout the entire dance.

MUSIC: 3/4

MEASURES 4 meas.

I.  
1-4 CIRCLE L - CIRCLE R.  
Circle L (CW) with 4 walk waltz steps.  
5-8 Circle R (CCW).

CHORUS  
9-12 Partners face to start a Grand R and L. Give R to partner, L to the next, and R to the next. Keeping R joined (with this 3rd person) dance a full turn around CW to face opp. direction (W are now facing CCW; M CW).  
13-16 Continue Grand R and L (in this reverse direction) giving L, R, L, keeping L joined with this last person and dancing a full turn CCW to end in original position. (Leaning away from each person throughout Chorus adds to the swing.)

II.  
1-4 THE HATCHEL (COMBING THE FLAX).  
With 4 walk waltz steps W dance CCW around partner, while M mark time in place.  
5-8 M dance CW around partner while W mark time stepping in place.

CHORUS  
9-16 Repeat action of Chorus, Fig. I, meas. 9-16.

III.  
1-2 SPINNING  
With 2 walk waltz steps W move twd. center and join hands at shoulder level.  
3-4 Circle L.  
5-6 Circle R.  
7-8 With 2 walk waltz steps, W dance bwd. to place. M, with hands on hips, spin CW in place during entire Fig. III, meas. 1-8.

CHORUS  
9-16 Repeat action of Chorus, Fig. I, meas. 9-16.

IV.  
1-2 WEAVING  
With 2 walk waltz steps, W move twd. center and join hands.  
3-4 M move twd. center and duck under arches made by W joined hands; then M join hands bringing them over W heads to rest at back of W necks.  
5-8 With 4 walk waltz steps all move slowly bwd., smoothly and gradually releasing hand holds.

**FLACHSERNTEN (continued)**

**IV. (continued)**

**CHORUS**  
9-16 Repeat action of Chorus, Fig. 1, meas. 9-16.  
64 meas. Repeat entire dance.

**CODA**  
1-16 Repeat action of Fig. 1, meas. 1-16.