

MALŪNAS  
(mah-lōō-nahss)

(Dance for 8 couples)

Translation: The Mill.

Record: Folkraft LP-35 (side A band 2) — 2:50.

Note: All movements of the dance are with light RUNNING STEPS, two (left, right) per measure, except for Figures I, IV and VI which are as described.

Music 2/4

Measure

1-16

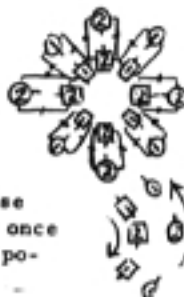
ENTRANCE (optional) — Cart with horses

Four groups of four with number 1 (leading) couple acting as the "horses" and number 2 (behind) acting as the "cart". Couple 1 join inside hands and stretch inside arms straight forward like shoulders which hands are held by outside hands of couple 2; couple 2 join inside hands, arms downward. Group follow group in this formation, enter, and form a double circle. Finish facing partner, man's back to center, both hands joined.



1-8

FIGURE I — Sieve  
Swing joined hands slightly sideward to man's right (count 1), left (count 2), etc., 16 swings in all. (This represents sifting the grain in a sieve.)



1-8

FIGURE II — Independent circles  
Release hands, turn 1/4 right and run forward, man clockwise inside and woman counterclockwise outside, passing partner once then meeting again to finish with original partner in original position, both hands joined.

9-16

REPEAT "sieve" pattern of Figure I measures 1-8 above.

1-2

FIGURE III — Couples shuttle  
Couples 1 move toward center (men move backward) while couples 2 move outward (men move forward).

3-4

Couples 1 turn slightly to man's right and move outward (man move forward) while couples 2 turn slightly to man's left and move toward center (man move backward), each passing a new couple.

5-16

REPEAT measures 1-4 thrice (4 times in all) and finish in original starting position. Couples 1 move clockwise while couples 2 move counterclockwise around the circle in this interweaving; couples pass each other twice and stop the third time.

17-22

REPEAT "sieve" pattern of Figure I measure 1-6 above (12 swings only).

23-24

All face counterclockwise and couples 1 form a left hand STAR while couples 2 move slightly forward to join on the outside and form a large double star of four "spokes": men place arms around women's waists, women place hands on partners' shoulders.

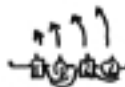
1-8

FIGURE IV — Outer couples move  
Partners remain together: couples 1 run in place while couples 2 with two long strides run forward to join the next spoke (counts 1-2), then all STAMP three times in place (counts 3-and-4), and . . . repeat thrice (4 times in all).



1-8

FIGURE V — Consolidated wings  
Men 2 place left arms around waists of women 1, who place right hands on left shoulders of men 2, and all move forward.



*continued...*

## Malūnas, continued

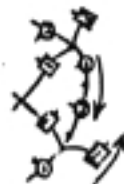
## FIGURE VI — Men turn back

- 1-8 | Release holds. Each woman remain facing counterclockwise but each man turn half around to face clockwise, then all move forward with two running steps to form a new "spoke" of four people in line (counts 1-2), three STAMPS in place (counts 3-and-4), and . . . repeat thrice (4 times in all) to finish with original partners.



## FIGURE VII — Grindstone

- 1-8 Each man turn half around to face counterclockwise. Men 1 reform left hand STAR in center and join their right hands with left hands of men 2 to form arches. Women 2 step in front of arch and other women step backward, the women face in and join hands to form a circle under the arches. Women circle left under the arches as men move forward over their circle.
- 9-16 REVERSE: women circle right and men move backward over their circle, each returning to original partner.



## FIGURE VIII — Circle four

- 1-16 Each original "spoke" or "wing" form a circle and circle left (counts 1-16) then circle right (counts 17-32).



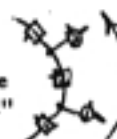
## FIGURE IX — Small stars

- 1-16 Each circle of four form a right hand STAR (counts 1-16) then left hand STAR (counts 17-32).



## FIGURE X — Gears

- 1-8+ All the men form one large circle facing center, each woman place her left hand over the pair of joined hands which includes her partner's right and hold her skirt with her right hand: men circle right as women move forward, increasing length of stride (not speed), and if wind is created during this run the "windmill" is successful. (Note: This Figure may be continued until the end of the music, or merely for 16 counts and then EXIT with the same "cart with horses" Figure used for the ENTRANCE.)



STAR: Designated persons put designated hands in center and move forward around that center (revolve clockwise for right hand star, counterclockwise for left hand star); in Lithuanian dances just shake hands with opposite in the star. Also known as a MILL (as in this dance, Malūnas).

Note: Malūnas is a pantomime which begins with the carts as they arrive with the grain which is first sifted then ground into flour by the mill. There are several Lithuanian "mill" dances, ranging in difficulty from easy to complicated (see Dances of Lithuania by V. F. Beliajus). The version above is an intermediate type; figures may be omitted, repeated, etc. in any order according to age level and ability of the group dancing.