

# OD BUCZKA DO BUCZKA

(old BOUCH-kah don BOUCH-kah)

Od Buczka Do Buczka is a couple dance from Upper Silesia in southwestern Poland. The dance was performed at weddings. It is romantic and a bit sad. In older times the dancers sang while dancing it. The title comes from the first line of the song which translates: "From one beech tree to the next, leaf by leaf; tell me, Johnny, about the wreath, about the green wreath plaited by your girl." The wreath is often part of a maiden's costume in this area and appears frequently in Polish folklore. "She lost her wreath," may also mean "she lost her virginity." At the end of a wedding, there is a ceremony (the czepiec) during which married women remove the bridal wreath and replace it with a bonnet, a symbol that the bride belongs to the society of married women. This is accompanied by special songs and deep sobbing by the bride. In subsequent stanzas of the song, the bride asks her husband if he will be kind to her. He answers, as if warning her, that married life is not easy, that she will not have to carry water from the well because she will have plenty of it in her own eyes.

**Music** Record: LR-7167 "Tańce Śląskie" (Polish Dances from Silesia), side A, band 2, (available from Ada Dziekanowska); 3/4 time.

**Styling** Lyrical, relaxed, smooth movements. Ptrs maintain eye contact as much as possible. Bows are performed with feet together and back straight. W also bend knees slightly.

**Starting Position:** Cpls in a single circle, M facing LOD, W facing ptr. Hands on own hips, fingers fwd, thumbs back.

## PATTERN

meas  
1-4

### INTRODUCTION

At end of meas 4, M extends his arms sideways, slightly curved, as if to encircle ptr. W holds her skirt out at sides; or either ptr may cross arms in front of chest, putting one hand over the other elbow.



### FIGURE 1: PURSUIT

Melody A: (eight meas)

1-8

M: Beg L, move in LOD with eight smooth waltz steps, stepping diag fwd L with L ft on ct 1 of odd meas and diag fwd R with R ft on ct 1 of even meas, watching ptr and using arms in a protective manner.  
W: Beg R, move in LOD with eight waltz steps, turning CW one half turn on each meas. End in single circle, ptrs facing, both hands joined (R with L) and extended sidw at chest level, M's palms at the back of the W's hands.

(cont.)

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FIGURE II: WINDOWS AND W TURNS

Melody B: (eight meas played twice)

- 1 Beg M-L, W-R, step sdwd twd ctr of circle bending bodies slightly away from ctr and look twd ctr under the inside hands (M-L, W-R) which rise above head (cts 1, 2); hold, free ft remains in place (ct 3).
- 2 Shift wt onto M-R, (W-L) ft, repeating action of Fig II meas 1 in opp dir. Do not bend knees.
- 3 Repeat action of Fig II meas 2 with opp ftwk and dir.
- 4 Repeat action of Fig II meas 2.
- 5-6 M beg L, W-R walk CW around each other with six even steps. End with M's back to ctr, W facing ptr.
- 7 Release M-L, W-R hand. Man takes three steps in place, L, R, L, guiding W as she makes a full CCW turn under the joined hands with three even steps R, L, R.
- 8 Ptrs resume the hold of both hands and bring their ft together slowly bowing to each other. W bend knees slightly.
- 9-10 M beg L, W-R, move LOD with a sdwd step, hold, together, step (cts 1, 2, 3, 1); swing free ft across supporting leg, keeping ft close to floor on swing (cts 2, 3).
- 11-12 Repeat action of Fig II meas 9-10 with opp ftwk and dir.
- 13-14 Repeat action of Fig II meas 5-6 (walk around, end M's back to ctr, W facing ptr).
- 15-16 Release M-L hand, W-R hand. M dances four steps in place (L, R, L, R) guiding W while she makes two CCW turns under the joined hands with four steps (R, L, R, L). Finish in open ballroom pos (cts 1, 2, 3, 1). Bow to ptr (cts 2, 3) with hands on hips and feet together.

FIGURE III: CAST OFF

Melody A: (eight meas)

- 1-2 Ptrs face LOD, M beg L ft, W-R ft, cpl moves smoothly in LOD with six walking steps.
- 3-4 In a gradual movement, open outside arms to fr at, slightly rounded, as ptrs cast off (M to L, W to R) with six smooth walking steps. End facing RLOD, at a point slightly in RLOD from pos at beg of Fig III meas 3 and assume reversed open ballroom pos.
- 5-8 Repeat action of Fig III meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and move RLOD. Finish M's back to ctr, W facing ptr, hands joined.

FIGURE IV: WINDOWS AND HALF TURNS

Melody B: (eight meas, played twice)

- 1-6 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-6, except move twd LOD to beg and then twd RLOD.
- 7 Release M-L, W-R hand and with three steps each ptr make a half turn CCW, W moving under the joined hands, to end back-to-back, M facing ctr, W facing outside of circle.
- 8 Join the released hand and slowly raise arms sdwd.

(cont.)

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- 9-10 M beg. R, W-L, ptrs do a sdwd step, hold, together, step (cts 1, 2, 3, 1); hold with M-L, W-R ft touching floor in place cts 2, 3).
- 11-12 Repeat action of Fig IV meas 9-10 with opp ftwk and dir.
- 13 Release M-L, W-R hand, move in LOD with three steps making a half turn (M-CW, W-CCW). Rejoin hand momentarily.
- 14 Repeat action of Fig IV meas 11 with opp ftwk and handhold, still moving in LOD, each completing the full turn started in meas 13 and resuming back-to-back pos.
- 15 Repeat action of Fig IV meas 13. Meas 13, 14, and 15 are done in a continuous, smooth, flowing manner.
- 16 With joined hands outstretched, ptrs slowly bow to each other.



#### HUNG

#### POLISH TEXT

Od buczka do buczka po wsteczku  
Powiedz mi, Jasienku, o wianeczku  
:O wianeczku, o zielonym,  
Przez twoją dziewczynę uwinięnym

#### PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION

Ohd booch-kah doh booch-kah poh leez-tench-koo  
poh-vyehts mee yah-shehn-ko oh vyah-nehch-ko  
oh vyah-nehch-koo oh zych-loh-nym  
pshehz tfoh-yohm jehf-ehy-neh ee-vee-nyoh-nym

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