

POTKU MASURKKA

Finnish
(POT-coo ma-SUR-ka)

Skandia CD, track 27

NOMENCLATURE

Credible English Title Kick Mazurka.

ETHNO-CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES

Heritage Finnish.
Category Individual couple dance.
Motivation and application Recreation.

MUSICAL ATTRIBUTES

Type Triple-meter (3/4).

CHOREOLOGICAL ATTRIBUTES

Function Individual couple dance.
Character and form Lively, with strength and restrained gusto.
Footwork Opposite.
Specific steps Kick-mazurka, run, polka-mazurka turn.
Dance holds Open single-hand hold. Baltic/mazurka hold (see description in Appendix A).
Formation Couples in double circles around the room; M on inside, W on outside, facing CCW.

THE DANCE ROUTINE

MEASURES	ACTION
	A. Mazurka and cross-over.
	Open single-hand position, free-hand fist on hip.
1 - 3	Beginning on outside foot, three kick-mazurka steps forward LOD: Stamp (outside foot) - Step (inside foot) - Kick (outside foot). The kick is a quick, small, flick of the foot, out and in, as if trying to kick something off one's shoe.
4	Change places with three running steps (M swings W forward in front of and facing him,

	over to his L side), changing hands.
5 - 7	W is now on M's L side. Inside hands joined, free-hand fist on hip. Repeat above with opposite footwork.
8	With three running steps, as before, M swings W back to his R side.
	B. Polka-mazurka turn.
	Baltic/mazurka hold.
9 - 16	4 complete rotations CW using polka-mazurka turning step below.

POLKA-MAZURKA TURN

COUNTS	ACTION
	Description is for M's footwork, beginning M's L. W's footwork is opposite throughout, beginning W's R.
1	First ½ turn: M: With L side to LOD, very small jump into LOD landing on both feet but with weight on L. Feet are slightly separated on landing.
2	Close and step R foot next to L, with bounce.
3	Step L, with bounce, turning L heel strongly CW into LOD such that a complete ½ turn CW can be completed in this count.
1	Second ½ turn (completing turn): With R side to LOD, very small jump into LOD landing on both feet but with weight on R. Feet are slightly separated when you land.
2	Close L foot next to R, with bounce.
3	Step R turning strongly CW into LOD such that a complete ½ turn can be completed in this count.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The dance name Potku Masurkka or Kick Mazurka (*sparkdans* in Swedish) refers to the kicking action of the open mazurka step. The closed turn employs a form of polka-mazurka, essentially a polka step in 3/4-time, danced with a staccato bounce.

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Potku Masurkka

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