

## SWEDISH MAZURKA

(Sprättmazurka; Skånsk mazurka)

Oldtime couple dance from Sweden

Source: As learned and danced in Stockholm and parts of southern Sweden (1946-48, 1950-51) by Gordon E. Tracie, and taught at Scandia Folkdance Club, Seattle.

Recording: Scandinavia Sings 3806, "Upplands mazurka".

Formation: For any number of couples. LOD CCW.

Dance Posns: Open: couple facing fwd, W on M's R, inside hands joined at shoulder height, elbows bent; open shoulder-waist. Free hands always on hips Swedish style (fingers forward, thumb back).

Steps: Dal step variant (described below); Kick-mazurka (Fryksdals) step (described below); Swedish polka-mazurka step (as described for Mazurka-Polketta).

### A. Dal step variants:

- 1-2 In open position, inside hands joined, beginning on outside foot, 2 Dal step variants ("step-swings"), first with hands fwd and slightly back-to-back with partner, then with hands back and slightly facing partner.  
NOTE: These steps may be done with the usual Dal step "lift" on the 3rd beat, or with a slight "bounce" on each beat, in keeping with the "bounciness" nature of the Swedish polka-mazurka step.

### B. Individual turns:

- 3-4 Releasing joined hands and placing them on own hips, M and W each turn around individually, away from one another, 2 complete turns (M CCW, W CW), with the following steps: M: L-R-R, L-R-R; W: R-L-L, R-L-L.

### C. Kick-mazurka fwd:

- 5-6 Taking open shoulder-waist position, free hands on hips, couple moves fwd in LOD with 2 kick-mazurka (Fryksdals) steps on the outside foot, that is, a L kick-mazurka step for the M, and a R one for the W. (See step description below.)

### D. Polka-mazurka open partner turn:

- 7-8 Retaining open position, couple makes one complete turn CW, in place, with 2 Swedish polka-mazurka steps (as described with Mazurka-Polketta).  
M begins with a L polka-mazurka step, stamping with both feet on the 1st beat of the 1st measure to accentuate the beginning of the turn; W begins with a R polka-mazurka step.

Resume position as in A and repeat entire sequence as many times as desired.

THE KICK-MAZURKA STEP, a variation of the continental mazurka step, is danced in all of the Scandinavian lands. In the Swedish districts of Finland it is called Sparksteg (Kick step) or Sparkmasurka (Kick-mazurka), though sometimes also Polkamasurka (♫). The step is found in the Swedish-Finnish Sparkdans (Kick Dance) as well as the native Finnish Potku Mazurkka (Kick Mazurka). In Norway the step has retained its original name, it being called Masurka there. However in Sweden it is generally known as Fryksdals step, so named after a district in the province of Värmland from which is attributed to have come the "big" folkdance Fryksdalspojska, which employs this step thruout. The same step appears in all the versions of the Scandinavian Varsoviennne.

The kick-mazurka step as danced in the Swedish Mazurka, described above, is done in either of two ways (each a very slight variation of the other). Descriptions for a L kick-mazurka step follow, a R step being just the opposite.

#### I. 1st beat: step L;

2nd beat: step R, simultaneously lifting L and kicking it fwd;

3rd beat: hop or skip fwd on R, while L is brought back.

#### II. 1st beat: step L;

2nd beat: step R, and lift L;

3rd beat: kick L fwd and back very fast, while skipping fwd on R.

In any case it is important that the kick be kept short, the kicking foot not extending too far either fwd or back, nor coming higher than the calf of the other leg.

When two or more kick-mazurka steps are danced consecutively, each always begins on the same foot.

#### Step-pattern chart:

KICK-MAZURKA STEP II  
(M's L, W's R)

Music:	Beats	1	2	3
Step:	Man	L	R	kck L, skp fwd R
	Woman	R	L	kck R, skp fwd L