

RUSSIAN DANCES

TROIKA (Troy-ka)

Troika refers to a three horse carriage or a three horse team.

Formation:

Big circle of trios, facing counterclockwise, holding hands shoulder high in the line of three.

Action:

1. Four light running steps forward, diagonally to right,
Four light running steps forward, diagonally to left,
Eight light running steps directly forward (all this action requires 16 counts). (See Fig. 99.)
2. Keeping hands joined with man, lady on right runs in front of him and under the arch formed by the man and his left hand lady and back to place. The other two run in place, with the man turning to the left under his own left arm as the right-hand lady runs under the arch (all this requires 8 counts). (See Fig. 100.)
3. Left-hand lady goes under the arch formed by man and right-hand lady with action similar to 2 above (8 counts).
4. Each group of three joins hands in a small circle and runs to the left 12 steps, beginning on the left foot, followed by 3 stamps in place (16 counts).
5. Repeat 4 to the right.



Figure 99

Summary:

1. Right, 2, 3, 4;
Left, 2, 3, 4;
Forward, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
2. Right-hand lady under arch.
3. Left-hand lady under arch.
4. Circle left, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, stamp, stamp, stamp.
5. Circle right, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, stamp, stamp, stamp.

Variation:

To make the dance *progressive*: In the last figure above after all circle to the right, in 12 running steps, the center person runs forward, under the joined hands of the two outside persons, to the next two, while the outside two stamp in place.

Leader's note:

The goosekick sometimes used in this dance is not traditional but is awkward and tiring. The step is a swift moving, natural, running step, but not boisterous.

Action 1 above is according to former *World of Fun* instructions. Michael Herman reports that the original and easiest form to execute is simply to run forward 16 steps.

Credit:

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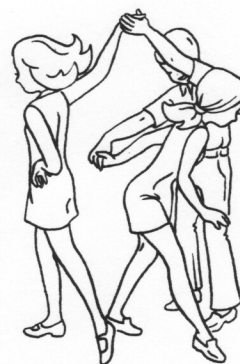


Figure 100

(See glossary for meaning of terms)