

Vě nec (Czech Republic)

Vě nec (vee-YEN-ets) is a couple dance from the Horácko region of western Moravia and adjacent Bohemia. It can also be done as a women's dance. The name means "wreath." The dance is a combination of mazurka and polka motifs. A similar version of this dance was taught by František Bonuš at the 1979 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp. This version was presented by Radek Rejšek and Eva Rejšková at the 2000 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

Cassette: Dances from the Czech Republic, Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2000, Side A/7.
3/4, 2/4 meter

Formation: Cpls in a single circle facing ctr, W on M's R side; hands held down (V-pos).

Steps and Styling: Slide-Close step*, Walk*, Grand R & L*, Step-Hop*.

Mazurka step (3/4): step fwd on L with accent, bending body slightly fwd (ct 1), step on R behind L, straightening body (ct 2), hop on R bringing L ft up in front (ct 3). This step can also be done beginning on R. In this dance it is also done sideways.

Polka step (2/4): step fwd on L (ct 1), close R ft to L (ct &), step fwd on L (ct 2), hop (bounce) on L (ct &). Repeat with opp ftwk. This step can also begin on R. Note that this polka has the hop on the last 1/8 note of the meas instead on the last 1/16 note of the preceding meas.

*Described in the "General Glossary" of *Steps & Styling* (rev. 1996), published by the Folk Dance Federation of CA, Inc.

Measures	3/4, 2/4 meter	PATTERN
----------	----------------	---------

3/4
5 meas INTRODUCTION Meas 1-3: no action. Meas 4-5: release hand hold and turn 1/4 to face ptr (M facing LOD).

I. GRAND RIGHT AND LEFT WITH ELBOW TURN

1-4 Dance Grand R & L starting with R ft and R hand to ptr, 1 meas (3 steps) per person and dip slightly on ct 1 of each meas. Look at each person as you pass them. Free hand makes broad arc up and fwd.

5-7 Join 5th person with R elbow hold (L hand on hip or free at side) turn as a cpl for 3 meas (9 steps both starting with R); free hands can be held out to side, down, or on hips. Turn 1 1/2 times CW to end facing opp direction in large circle (M facing RLOD).

8 Release elbow hold and back away from ptr with 3 steps (L,R,L); no wt on last step.

- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 in opp direction, both starting with L ft. Left elbow hold and turn (meas 13-15) is with original ptr. On meas 16 do a step-close (R,L) to have R ft free, open out to form circle (W on M's R), and join hands in V-pos.

II. MAZURKAS AND WALKS

- 1-2 Facing diag R of ctr, dance 2 Mazurka steps sdwds in LOD, starting with R ft.
- 3-4 Still facing diag R of ctr, walk in LOD 6 small steps (starting with R), accenting ct 1 of each meas.
- 5-7 Repeat meas 1-3.
- 8 Step on L in place (ct 1); close R to L with emphasis (ct 2); hold, shifting wt to R (ct 3).
- 9-15 Repeat meas 1-7 moving in RLOD starting on L ft.
- 16 Step on R in place (ct 1); close L to R while releasing hands and turning to face ptr (M facing LOD) (ct 2); hold (ct 3).

III. GRAND RIGHT AND LEFT WITH ELBOW TURN

- 1-16 Repeat Fig. I, except on meas 16 instead of turning to face ctr, W face LOD, and M step up beside W on inside; join hands in promenade pos (M's R arm over W's L), but with arms straight, held down, and R hands next to L hands. At end of meas 16, M put wt on R ft and W on L.

IV. MAZURKAS AND WALKS

- 1-7 Repeat Fig. II meas 1-7 but in promenade pos (M start with L, W with R), and moving fwd in LOD. Arms move fwd a little on ct 1 and back on ct 3.
- 8 While turning twd each other to face RLOD, M step R (ct 1); close L to R with emphasis (ct 2); hold (ct 3). W use opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 in RLOD and with opp ftwk (M start R, W L). End in a single circle, ptrs facing. M face LOD. Arms remain joined and crossed (R arms on top).

2/4 V. POLKA AND TURNS

- 1-2 Dance 2 Polka steps in LOD, M moving fwd (starting on L) and W bkwd (starting on R).
- 3-4 With 4 Step-Hops (M beg L, W R), M turn W once to her R under raised joined arms (L arms are on top at end of turn).

- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, except that on meas 7-8, M turn W to her L, ending with R arms on top.
- 9-10 Repeat meas 1-2, except M back up and W go fwd.
- 11-12 Repeat meas 3-4, except W turn M once around to his R (L arms now on top).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12, except W now turn M once around to his L (meas 15-16), and on meas 16 drop hand hold, and M omit final Step-Hop just touching R next to L.

VI. ELBOW TURNS

- 1-2 Ptrs hook R elbows, and both starting on R ft, dance 2 Polka steps turning CW; W free hands are on hips or held straight out. M free hand held high or behind back.
- 3-4 Continue CW turn with 4 Step-Hops.
- 5-7 Repeat meas 1-3.
- 8 Release elbow hold, step R (ct 1); close L to R with a stamp, M clap with vertical motion of arms (ct 2).
- 9-15 Repeat meas 1-7 with L elbow hold and opp ftwk.
- 16 Repeat meas 8 with opp ftwk. At the end, open out into single circle (W on M's R), hands held in V-pos.

VII. FINALE

- 1-7 Dance 14 Slide-Close steps sdwd in LOD (with emphasis on R step).
- 8 Dance 1 more Slide-Close step (cts 1, &); step to R on R (ct 2), close L to R with emphasis and no wt (ct &).
- 9-12 Dance 8 Slide-Close steps sdwd in RLOD.
- 13-16 Facing ctr, jump with ft apart 8 times (twice each meas), bringing bent legs up behind on each jump.
- (9-16) Optional ending: Designated leader drop L hand hold and curl line CW twd ctr using the same ftwk.