

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

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DER WOLGASTER (German)

(Der Vohlgas-ter)

This version of the Pomeranian dance was brought to America by Elizabeth Burchenal, whose source was personal participation in the dance when she visited in north Germany. The original description is in "Folk Dances of Germany" by Elizabeth Burchenal, copyright 1938 by G. Schirmer, Inc., and permission has been granted us for its use by the author and copyright owner.

Music: Record: Imperial 1102 "Der Wolgaster." Note: This record should be slowed considerably.

Piano: Burchenal, E. "Folk Dances of Germany."

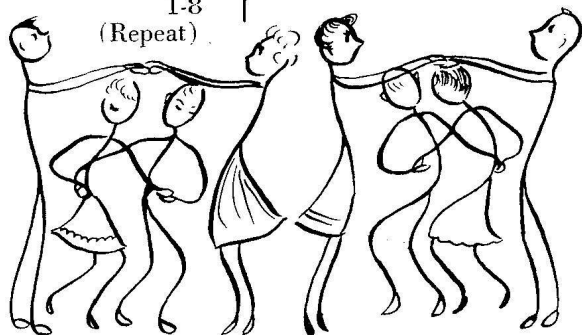
Formation: Regular square formation, head and side couples are designated. Bodies are erect and heads held high. All hands are joined and held together at shoulder height.

Steps: Walk*, Run*, Skip. Note: Walk is crisp, smooth and precise, not a shuffle.

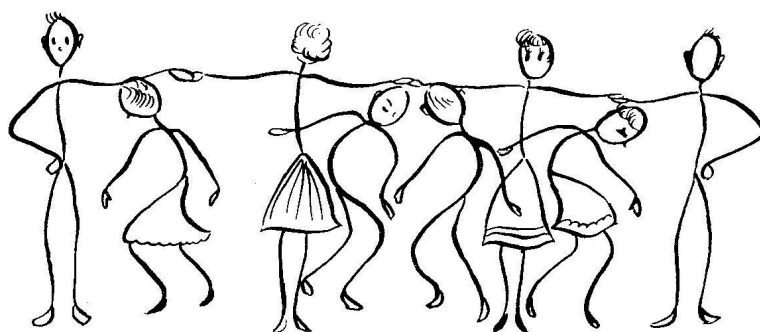
MUSIC 2/4	PATTERN	Illustrations by Annemarie J. Steinbiss
Measures	I. <i>Circle Left and Right</i>	
A 1-8	All four couples join hands at shoulder height in a ring and walk 16 steps to L, starting L foot. W look at M behind them as they move.	
1-8 (repeat)	Circle R with 16 walking steps, W looking at partner as they move.	
	II. <i>Side Arches</i>	
B 1-2	Couples 1 & 3 stand in open position, but with L hands joined in front and to L of M; R hands joined on W R hips. Couples 2 & 4 retain inside hands joined.	
	Head couples (1 & 3) turn counterclockwise in place with 4 steps.	
	Simultaneously M of side couples (2 & 4) turns his partner counterclockwise to center to face him with 4 steps (M on outside), joining both hands to form an arch on 4th step.	
3-4	Note: This arch is held through measure 8.	
5-6	Beginning L foot, head couples walk four steps to arch made by side couples to their own right.	
7	With a marked dip (not a leap) on the first step, head couples walk through arch they are facing to the place where their opposites formerly stood.	
8	Head couples turn to L in place (two steps).	
	M swings W to inside to form two-hand arch with partner (same as the sides).	
B 1-6 (repeat)	Note: All 4 couples are now forming arches.	
7-8	While head couples hold arch, side couples take open position again and perform the same action completed by head couples: L turn on four steps; walk to arch formed by head couples with 4 steps; dip and walk through the arch on 4 steps.	
	Head couples continue to hold arch. Side couples turn L in place two steps; drop partners' R hand on step three and swing W into center of square (step four) where W join R hands with opposite W. Side couples are now in a straight line with W in center and M at ends of line. Hands are held high to form 3 arches.	
C 1-4	III. <i>Center Arches</i>	
	Side couples hold line of arches through measure 8. Head couples take open position again and make one complete turn to L (facing center again) taking 4 walking steps in half time.	
5-6	Head couples drop hands; W walk 4 steps (regular time) to the arch farthest to their own L. Simultaneously M walk four steps to center arch.	
7-8	W, leading with L shoulder, dips on first step, walks through arch and turns to R moving along line until she joins R hands across center with opposite W, L hands with partner.	
	Simultaneously M, leading with L shoulder and passing back to back with opposite M, dips on 1st step as he goes through center arch and continues on to opposite place with 3 steps and makes a half turn L on 4th step to join L hands with partners.	
C 1-8 (repeat)	Head couples hold line of arches. Side couples repeat action of measures 5-6 as done by head couples, except that they finish standing in open position and facing center of set.	

DER WOLGASTER---Continued

MUSIC 2/4	PATTERN	Illustrations by Annemarie J. Steinbiss
	IV. Cross-over	
D 1-2	Side couples hold open position in place (measures 1-8) while head couples take following action. Head W break R hands at center. M give W slight push with L hand, and W exchange places on four walking steps, passing back to back (R shoulders leading) joining R hands with opposite M. W moving clockwise to outside of opposite M, always keeping R shoulder toward him and stopping when her R shoulder also is toward center.	
	Note: Avoid leaping on this figure.	
3-4	W push M with R hand and M exchange places on 4 walking steps, passing back to back, L shoulders leading, joining L hands with partner and keep L shoulder toward partner, turn counterclockwise until L shoulder is toward center.	
5-8	Repeat action of measures 1-4, head M and W returning to own places.	
1-8 (Repeat)	Side couples repeat action described for head couples under measures 1-8, while head couples stand in open position facing center.	
	V. Elbow Hook and Run	
A 1-8	All couples hook R elbows with partners. M and W have both hands on hips. Run 16 steps around partner.	
A 1-8 (Repeat)	Changing to join L elbows, run 16 steps around partner in the other direction.	
B 1-8 1-8 (Repeat)	VI. Same as Figure II	
C 1-8 1-8 (Repeat)	II. Same as Figure III	
D 1-8 1-8 (Repeat)	VIII. Same as Figure IV.	
	IX. Grand Right and Left	
A 1-4	Using skipping step, all do a half grand R and L until they meet partner in opposite position.	
5-8	All join R elbows with partners, L hands on hips, and turn twice around while skipping.	
1-8 (Repeat)	Continue grand R & L to home position. Join R elbows again and turn twice around while still skipping.	
B 1-8 1-8 (Repeat)	X. Same as Figure II	
C 1-8 1-8 (Repeat)	XI. Same as Figure III	
D 1-8 1-8 (Repeat)	XII. Same as Figure IV	
A 1-8 1-8 (Repeat)	XIII. Same as Figure I	



SIDE ARCHES



CENTER ARCHES