

Bavaria

BAVARIAN LANDLER

Music: Steirischer Landler

There are many Lancers, some very complicated, others quite simple. Usually the dance ends in a traditional "Schuplattler." The "Schuplattler" is a characteristic Bavarian figure done only by the men with much slapping of the thighs, heels and knees. The ladies merely pivot around in place. The Landler given here is a city version of the dance and does not include the "Schuplattler," but has enough of the traditional Landler figures to enable you to take on more challenging versions later on. While the dance has many figures, it is basically simple, for the footwork is the same throughout. All one has to do is remember the sequence. Note that the figures are done in the following manner to fit the music.

Figure 1--16 measures	Figure 5-- 16 measures	Figure 9-- 16 measures
Figure 2--16 measures	Figure 6-- 16 measures	Figure 10--16 measures
Figure 3-- 8 measures	Figure 7-- 8 measures	Figure 11-- 8 measures
Figure 4-- 8 measures	Figure 8-- 8 measures	Figure 12-- 8 measures

OPENING FORMATION: As many couples as will fit around the room.

STEP: A heavy peasant waltz step in moderate tempo is used throughout the dance. The first count of each waltz step is heavily accented.

- FIG. 1: RIGHT-HAND GRASP: Right hands are clasped at eye level, with elbows bent at right angle. Free left hands are kept on hips. Couple waltzes around in place (man begins with left foot, lady with right), swaying slightly from side to side.
- FIG. 2: WALTZ: Partners take ballroom position and, turning clockwise, dance counterclockwise around the room with the same heavy waltz step.
- FIG. 3: CROSS-HANDS GRASP: Partners cross hands (right with right and left with left) and, leaning backward, turn in place (clockwise) with 8 waltz steps).
- FIG. 4: LADY TURNS: Man holds right arm high as lady grasps one finger of his uplifted hand with her right hand. The lady turns clockwise under the raised hands as the couple dances counterclockwise around the room. The man follows her as she turns, moving forward and keeping her directly in front of him--8 waltz steps in all.
- FIGURE 5: BACK GRASP: Partners hook right elbows and then place left hands behind own backs. Lady takes man's left hand with her right hand, and man holds lady's left hand with his right. They now turn clockwise in place with 16 waltz steps.
- FIG. 6: LADY KNEELS: Lady kneels on right knee. Partners join right hands and man dances clockwise around lady with 16 waltz steps.
- FIG. 7: NECK-WAIST HOLD: Lady rises and clasps her hands behind her neck. Man places his hands around her waist. Turning clockwise they dance counterclockwise around the room with 8 waltz steps.
- FIG. 8: MAN KNEELS: Man kneels on right knee. Partners hold right hands as lady dances clockwise around man with 8 waltz steps.
- FIG. 9: WINDOW: Partners face each other and join hands overhead (right with right over left with left). Lady holds man's middle finger of each hand to facilitate turns. Joined hands are held high. Lady turns around twice to right under uplifted arms. (Arms will become entangled.) They lower joined left hands, bending right elbows at a right angle, thus forming a window through which they may see each other. The man stands still as the lady turns. This figure is done in 3 counts. After the window is formed, the couple continues dancing in place, turning clockwise with waltz steps.

DIRECTIONS from FOLK DANCE HOUSE, 108 W. 16th Street, New York, N.Y.

MIAMI VALLEY FOLK DANCERS, Mary Ann Herman Weekend, March 5-6, 1960, Dayton, Ohio

BAVARIAN LANDLER (Cont'd)

- FIG. 10: UNWIND AND TURN: Still holding both hands, lady turns twice around to the left under joined hands. Lady now reverses direction as she turns to the right (clockwise) under joined right hands. Couple dances forward, lady turning and man following, for 7 waltz steps. Left hands are on hips.
- FIG. 11: THE CHASE: With hands on hips, lady waltzes forward alone, looking back at the man over one shoulder and then over the other. Man follows, chasing her with open arms for 8 waltz steps.
- FIG. 12: WALTZ: Couple takes ballroom position and, turning clockwise, waltzes 8 steps in a counterclockwise position. It is customary for the man to lift his partner high in the air on the last note of the music.

TEACHING HINTS: In all of the figures where the girl turns, she should use a fast pivot step, taking one step for each beat of the music. The free hand during this pivot is kept just above the waist. (This is due to the fact that the bodice in Bavarian costumes is heavily adorned with strings of coins that would bounce up and down if not held by the hand.)

In Figure 7, the girls lean back with hands behind their necks in order to show off the carnations tucked into their bodices.

An American Dance

PORTLAND FANCY

Best record is HMV 10304

While this dance is described as being done in sets of 4 couples up and down the hall, we like the formation where the sets are arranged like spokes around the room.

FORMATION: Two couples side by side, facing another two couples, arranged like the spokes of a wheel in sets around the room, one set facing clockwise, the other counterclockwise.

PART 1: All join hands and circle to the Left with 8 brisk walking steps and walk to the right 8 brisk walking steps. BE SURE TO FINISH IN YOUR ORIGINAL TWO STRAIGHT LINES.

PART 2: All do a Right and Left through and a Right and Left back. This is done with couples crossing and passing each other by the Right shoulders with 4 walking steps and then turning CCW with 4 steps as a couple (DO NOT TURN INDIVIDUALLY) and cross to original places with 4 steps and turn as a couple CCW with 4 steps.

PART 3: Ladies chain over and back.

PART 4: All take 4 walking steps forward and 4 backwards and then pass through opposite set by the right shoulder with 8 walking steps and DO NOT TURN AROUND, But go on to meet a new set.

NOTE: If there are not enough people to make the dance a 4 couple one, you can do exactly the same dance with just one couple facing another instead of two and two.

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MIAMI VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

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