

BÖHMISCHER LÄNDLER

(Austria - Bavaria)

Böhmischer Ländler (BIR-mish-er LEHND-ler), or Bohemian Landler, is also known as Ein Steirisher Aus Dem Bohmerwald, meaning Steirischer (a type of dance) from the Bohemian Forest. Each area has its own particular landler dance consisting of a number of figures common to all, but always with one figure not to be found in any other landler. In the Böhmischer Ländler that special figure is the "Embrace". This dance was introduced at the 1967 Folk Dance Camp, University of the Pacific, Stockton, California, by Walter Kogler.

MUSIC: Record: Tanz SP 23051 or EP 58611, Landler in F.
Piano: Schutzenberger and Derschmidt, Vol 5, p 14.

FORMATION: Cpls in a circle, facing LOD. W is to right of M. Inside hands are joined at shoulder height. Outside hands may be placed on hip.

STEPS AND STYLING: Ländler Step: A smooth walking step (with a flat-footed look, but with no weight on heels), one step to each beat of the music, with only slight accent on first ct of each 3-beat meas. Even when turning with ptr, there are no specified closing steps.

NOTE: For brevity, the term landler step will be used throughout to designate three walking steps, one meas of music.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures

A INTRODUCTION

1-4 No action.

5-6 Swing joined hands fwd (meas 5) and bkwd (meas 6).

7 M stand in place as W turn once CW under raised, joined hands, with 3 steps (RLR).

8 W stand in place as M quickly kneel on R knee (ct 1), and rise (ct 2-3).

A I. MOVE FORWARD, THEN W TURN

rptd

1-8 Beginning ML, WR, cpls move fwd (LOD) with 8 landler steps.

9-10 With 2 landler steps, cpls continue to move fwd, M moving straight fwd as before while W turns once CW under raised, joined hands.

11-16 Repeat action of meas 9-10 three more times.

A II. TURNS WITH HIPS ADJACENT

rptd

1-8 Ptrs join both hands, straight across, and turn 1/4 to own L so that R sides are adjacent. R arm is extended in front of ptrs chest, L elbow is bent and shoulder high, with L hand near own L shoulder. Cpls turn CW with 8 landler steps.

9-16 Keeping hands joined, ptrs make 1/2 turn to own R, so that L sides are adjacent (arm positions are now reversed) and turn CCW with 8 landler steps.

B III. SINGLE YOKE

1-8 Ptrs raise WL-MR joined hands above head and make 1/2 turn to own L so that R sides are adjacent. Lower WL-MR joined hands behind W neck, other hands in front of M chest as before. Cpls turn CW with 8 landler steps.

9-16 Ptrs raise joined hands and make 1/2 turn to own R so that L sides are adjacent. Lower WR-ML joined hands behind W neck, other hands extended across M chest as before. Cpls turn CCW with 8 landler steps.

B IV. DOUBLE YOKE

rptd

1-8 Ptrs raise joined hands and make 1/2 turn to own L so that R sides are adjacent. Each place own L hand (joined with ptrs R) behind own neck. Cpls turn CW with 8 landler steps.

9-16 Ptrs raise joined hands and make 1/2 turn to own R so that L sides are adjacent. Each place own R hand (joined with ptrs L) behind own neck. Cpls turn CCW with 8 landler steps.

C V. WINDOWS

1-4 Ptrs release hands and rejoin them, R with R, L with L, R hand over L. W turn twice CW in place under raised, joined hands as M dances in place, ending with R hips adjacent. R upper arms are held together (W arm resting on M arm), and joined L hands are lowered to rest on "sill" (upper arms).

5-8 M and W peek at each other through the triangular shaped "L hand window" thus formed, as they turn once CW with 4 landler steps.

9-12 W turn three times CCW under joined hands as M dances in place, ending with L hips adjacent.

13-16 Cpls lower joined R hands to rest on "sill", and ptrs peek at each other through the "R hand window" as they turn once CCW with 4 landler steps.

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C VI. EMBRACE

rptd

1-8 W turn 1/4 (to face same direction as M) and M lower joined hands over W head, to her waist. Her arms are now crossed in front of her, and his arms are crossed at her back. Cpls move fwd (LOD) with 8 landler steps as they look at each other, first over WL shoulder (meas 1), then over WR shoulder (meas 2), etc.

9-16 Raise joined hands above W head, W turn once CW. At same time, M move to position in front of W (passing on her L side) as he also turns once CW (both are now facing LOD). Lower joined hands over M head to his waist. M arms are crossed in front of him, and W arms are crossed at his back. Ptrs move fwd (LOD) with landler steps, looking over M shoulder at ptr in same manner as before.

D VII. SKATING POSITION TURNS

1-8 M raise joined hands over own head and lower them in front bringing W up to his R side. R hands are under L. Cpls turn in place CW with 8 landler steps, M moving fwd, W bkwd.

9-16 Still keeping hands joined, ptrs turn in twd each other to face opp direction (W is now to L of M). Cpls turn in place CCW with 8 landler steps.

D VIII. URNS WITH HIPS ADJACENT

rptd

1-16 Ptrs release hands, face each other, rejoin hands straight across, and repeat action of Fig II.

A IX. LANDLER PROMENADE

1-14 In closed dance pos, cpls dance 14 landler steps, moving LOD as they turn CW (begin ML - WR).

15 W turn once CW under ML - WR joined hands.

16 M bow, W curtsey, to end dance.

