

NEAPOLITAN TARANTELLA

This Neapolitan Tarantella is popular in the Southern Section of the Folk Dance Federation of California.

Music Record: Harmonica Record H2051A. In using the Harmonica record there are 5 measures of introduction. The entire sequence is done 3 times.

Formation Couples anywhere on dance floor.

Steps Pas de Basque\*; Step-hop\*; Two-step\*; Walk\*; Polka\*

Music	Pattern
Measure	I. <u>Pas de Basque and Step-hops</u> Partners facing each other about two feet apart. W holds tambourine in L hand.
1	Both M and W pas de basque starting to the R. (Step sideward to the R, not forward.) The R arm is swung over the head and the L arm across in front of the body.
2	Pas de basque to the L. Reverse the arm position.
3 - 4	Repeat R and L.
5 - 8	With R arm around partner's waist, L arm held high, do 4 step-hops around each other, starting with the R ft.
9 -16	Repeat meas. 1-8, same action.
	II. <u>Two-step, Pas de Basque and Turn</u> Partners take inside hands. (W changes tambourine to R hand.)
17 -20	M does 4 two-steps in place. W does 4 two-steps circling M. He does not release her hand, but swings his own arm around his head as she circles him.
21 -22	Still holding inside hands, pas de basque away from each other (M to L, W to R) and pas de basque toward each other.
23 -24	Drop hands. W strikes tambourine sharply. With 4 steps, make one complete turn away from each other.
25 -32	Repeat action of meas. 17-24. On last turn, partners move away from each other so that at the end of the turn they are facing each other about six feet apart.
	III. <u>Forward and Back, Do-si-do and Polka</u> Partners take 4 walking steps toward each other. Start with the arms stretched out behind the body. The body is bent slightly fwd. On steps 2 and 3 bring arms fwd. and up, at the same time straightening the body. On 4th step, strike tambourine sharply over the head. Head should be thrown back.
33 -34	Partners back away from each other with 4 walking steps. Reverse the arm and body action. Strike tambourine behind the back on the 4th step.
35 -36	Bring both arms up over head, shaking tambourine. With 8 walking steps partners circle each other, passing R shoulders first, then L shoulders as they back into place.
37 -40	Repeat action of meas. 33-40.
41 -48	In closed dance position couples polka around the floor.
49 -54	M twirls W for two complete turns under his L arm.
55 -56	Repeat polka and twirl. Separate to be ready to repeat the entire dance.
57 -64	



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This dance was arranged from authentic Italian steps by Madelynne Greeno. Pattern was authenticated by creator October, 1947.

Music Record: Columbia 14316F Oliver 201B  
Piano: Burchenal, E.; Folk Dances and Singing Games

Formation Couples in a double circle facing in open position. M's outside hand on hip, W carries tambourine in R hand throughout the dance.

Steps Step-swing\*, run\*, walk\*, two-step\*, buzz-turn\*, step-hop\*, three-step-turn\*.

Music	Pattern
Measure	
A 1 - 4	I. <u>Step-Swing and Run</u> In open position partners take two step-swings fwd. (M--L, R and W--R, L). Continuing in the line of direction, dancers bend slightly fwd. from the waist and take four running steps fwd. in the line of direction. Tambourine action: From erect position on the step-swings with tambourine held high, W brings R arm bkwd-fwd. in circular motion. The arm is high on the step-swings and sweeps fwd. on the running steps. M keeps L hand on hip.
5 - 8	Continue the above action of step-swings and run three more times.
1 - 8	
Repeat	
B 1 - 8	II. <u>Separate and Step-Swing</u> Partners separate, W crossing in front of M to move toward inside of circle taking three rapid walking steps L, R, L and clapping tambourine away from partner on last beat of measure. (On clap, weight is on L ft., R toe remains on floor pointed toward partner as W looks over R shoulder at M). M crosses in back of W simultaneously, moving away from the center with three rapid walking steps R, L, R and clapping hands away from partner in reverse position from W. Repeat the three rapid walking steps back to place and clap, W starting on R ft. (R, L, R) and M starting on L ft. (L, R, L). Facing partner, dancers execute four step-swings in place, M step-swings R, L, R, L and W step-swings L, R, L, R. W shakes tambourine continuously above her head and M snaps fingers above his head.
1 - 8	Repeat action of meas. 1-8.
Repeat	
C 1 - 8	III. <u>Circle Partner and Buzz Step Turn Alone</u> With back of R shoulders adjacent, R arms curved across chest at shoulder height and L arms curved overhead, dancers circle each other once with six two-steps starting on R ft. followed by two two-steps to place to end facing each other.
9 - 12	With R arm held above head partners turn to R with buzz steps for 8 cts.
1 - 8	Repeat action of meas. 1-8 in reverse direction: partners circling with L shoulders adjacent, both starting on L ft.
Repeat	
9 - 12	Repeat buzz step turn alone to L with L arm held high.
Repeat	
D 1 - 8	IV. <u>Clapping and Circling</u> Facing partner move toward each other with three walking steps (W starting R and M starting L). W strikes tambourine and M claps hands overhead on 4th ct. Still facing, partners separate with three walking steps (W starting L and M starting R) back to place clapping hands and striking tambourine behind own back. With four two-steps M turns to his L while watching W who circles him counterclockwise with



NEOPOLITAN TARANTELLA (CONT.)

Musio	Measure	Pattern
	1 - 8 Repeat	four two-steps (starting on R ft.). Both M and W hold L hand curved across chest with R hand to side, W holding tambourine. Repeat action of meas. 1-8.
A	1 - 4  5 - 8  1 - 8 Repeat	<p>V. <u>Step-Swing and Turning on Step-Hops</u> With partners facing, dancers take four step-swings in place (M--L, R, L, R and W--R, L, R, L) the M clapping hands 8 times above head while the W strikes tambourine eight times.</p> <p>In shoulder-waist position (but with W's R hand held high), dancers move fwd. with four step-hops progressing counterclockwise while turning clockwise (2 step-hops to one complete turn). Repeat action of meas. 1-8.</p>
B	1 - 8  1 - 8 Repeat	<p>VI. <u>Lasso Step</u> Facing fwd. with inside hands joined the M leads the W around him in a counterclockwise direction with four two-steps while the M two-steps in place. Both start with outside ft. With inside hands still joined, partners take one two-step away and one two-step toward each other. Move fwd. turning away from partner with a three-step turn and a close. Clap on first step of turn. Repeat action of meas. 1-8.</p>
C	1 - 8  9 - 12  1 - 12 Repeat	<p>VII. <u>Running Two-Step and Separate</u> In open position facing fwd. in line of direction, partners starting with outside ft. take eight running two-steps (leap-run-run) fwd. swaying out and in W's R arm is high and M's L hand on hip. Separating from each other dancers take four two-steps each describing a small circle (M--L and W--R) to meet in open position again. W watches M over her R shoulder, R arm is curved fwd. L arm out to side. M watches W over his L shoulder, L arm curved in front of chest; R arm out to side. Repeat action of meas. 1-12, end facing partner.</p>
D	1 - 4  5 - 8  1 - 4 Repeat 5 - 8 Repeat	<p>VIII. <u>Step-Swing and Cross</u> Partners facing, with hands high, tambourine shaking overhead, take two step-swings (M--L, R and W--R, L) followed by a three-step turn and close moving fwd. in line of direction. Arms drop on turn, finish clapping hands and tambourine on the close (4th step). Changing places with partner, M and W pass L shoulders with two two-steps, L arm curved fwd. across chest, R arm trailing. M starts L and W R. In opposite places W turns to R with four steps, M to L with four steps.</p> <p>With partners facing, M on the outside of circle, repeat the step-swing twice and three-step turn and close, moving clockwise. Partners move toward each other with two two-steps and turn away from each other with a three-step turn and close moving in a clockwise direction to end side by side with W on inside of circle.</p>
A	1 - 8 1 - 8 Repeat	<p>IX. <u>Repetition of Step-Swing and Run (See Step I)</u> Step I is repeated three times in all. On the 4th pattern after the step-swings partners separate W turning R away from partner with four walking steps and M standing in place. W finish on inside of circle with her back to the center.</p>



NEOPOLITAN TARANTELLA (CONT.)

Musio		Pattern
Measure		
B	1 - 8	X. <u>Bump Step</u> Both starting on the R ft. walk fwd. toward partner R, L, R turn slightly L, bump R hips. (Strike tambourine and clap on bump). Turning your back to partner walk back to place L, R, L and pivot R on L ft. to face partner. Facing partner execute four step-swings in place all starting on the R ft.
	1 - 8	Repeat action of meas. 1-8.
	Repeat	
C	1 - 8	XI. <u>Betting</u> Turning slightly away from partner W turns to R with L hip toward partner, M turns to L with R hip toward partner. W places L hand on R hip and matches fingers toward partner. M places R hand on L hip and matches fingers toward partner. This is repeated twice in all (preparation and matching fingers).
	9 - 12	Dancers change places passing L shoulders. W pantomimes joy of winning bet while M pantomimes losing bet. To complete pantomime W buzz-step-turns to R joyfully, R hand high while M dejectedly swings arms walking into W's place.
	1 - 12 Repeat	Repeat action of meas. 1-12, but on the repeat M wins and the W loses. W stands dejectedly in place, while M puts his arm around her shoulders and consoles her.
D	1 - 8	XII. <u>Step-Hops With Partner</u> Assuming shoulder-waist position partners (W--R arm high) execute twelve step-hops starting with M's L ft. and W's R, turning clockwise while progressing counterclockwise in circle. W turns away from M on three-step turn moving directly away from center of circle striking tambourine on 4th ct. M kneels on L knee facing fwd. in line of direction, as W turns away. M's R hand reaches out after her. W returns to her partner, starting on L ft. taking three-step turn to L and on ct. 4 sits on partner's R knee, holding tambourine high.
	1 - 8	<u>Note:</u> W's weight is on her own bent L knee and her R ft. points out (knee straight). M's R arm around W's waist, L arm high, W's L arm around M's neck, her R arm high.
	Repeat	