

THE MERRY WIDOW WALTZ

Music: "The Merry Widow Waltz" by Franz Lehar.

Record: LS 45-101

Position: Closed, man's back to COH.

Footwork: Opposite throughout. Instructions for man, woman does counterpart.

Introduction: 4 measures. Wait two meas in open pos, facing LOD. Then bal apart; and bal tog into closed pos, man's back to COH.

Measures:

1-4 ROCK BACK, , ; AND FRONT, , ; BACK, , ; AND FRONT, ,

In closed pos, man's back to COH, man rocks back on L foot, touching R lightly in place without moving it (woman rock fwd on R, touch L); rock fwd on R, touch L; back on L, touch R; fwd on R, at the same time pivoting L-face (woman R-face) to semi-closed pos, facing LOD and joined hands, touch L.

5-8 STEP, , SWING; STEP, (pivot to face, touch); STEP, , CLOSE; STEP, (pivot to RLOD, touch)

Facing LOD and joined hands, step fwd on outside feet (man's L), hold one count and swing R foot fwd on count 3; step fwd on inside feet (man's R, woman's L), pivot to face (man's back to COH), touch L; step to side in LOD on man's L, hold one count, and close with R on the 3rd count (canter); step again to L in LOD, at the same time pivoting to face RLOD (man turns R-face, woman L-face) and touch R on the 3rd count. (NOTE: Dancers are still in semi-closed pos. woman is at man's L side and they are looking twd RLOD over their encircling arms. Their joined hands

(man's L, woman's R) are trailing)

9-12 STEP, , SWING; STEP, , ; STEP, (pivot) FLARE, ;
DIP, ,

Moving RLOD, looking over encircling arms, step fwd on outside foot, (man's R), hold one count, swing inside foot fwd on 3rd count; step fwd on inside foot (man's L) and hold 2 counts; step fwd on outside foot, immediately pivoting on this foot to face LOD, flare the inside foot around in almost a full circle on counts 2 and 3, man turning L-face, woman, R-face, as they come to face LOD; (They will drop their joined hands momentarily but still maintain the hold with the arms. The spoken cue calls for a "kick" on this flare, as the swinging foot is lifted quite high and swung full around to come in behind the pivoting foot) on meas 12 take wt on this swung foot, bending the knee in a little dip, which is held through counts 2 and 3, while the inside feet are held extended.

13-16 WALTZ; WALTZ; WALTZ; WALTZ

Starting with man's free and extended R foot, do three meas of R-face turning waltz; on the 4th meas, man steps L- while woman does a R-face turn under his L arm (R-L).

End in closed pos, man's back to COH.

17-20 ROCK BACK, , ; ROCK FWD, STEP, CLOSE; BACK, STEP, CLOSE; FWD (pivot)

The pattern is the same as in meas 1-4, but waltz steps are added in meas 2 and 3. Rock back on man's L (fwd on woman's R), holding for the measure; rock fwd on man's R and step, close (L, R); rock back on man's L, and step, close (R, L); on meas 20 step fwd on man's R (woman's L) and pivot into semi-closed pos, facing LOD as in meas 4.

21-24 STEP, SWING, RISE; RUN, 2, 3; STEP, FLARE, ; DIP,

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Step fwd on outside foot (man's L), swing inside foot fwd, do a slight rise or hop on count 3 of the meas; starting on raised inside foot (man's R) run fwd 3 steps (R, L, R); step on outside foot (man's L), at the same time pivoting (man R-face, woman L-face) to face RLOD, still maintaining semi-closed pos, joined hands trailing, and on counts 2 and 3, kick-flare the inside foot (man's R, woman's L) clear around and behind; on meas 24 dip back on these now outside feet, raising the inside feet off the floor, parallel.

25-28 RUN, 2, 3; STEP, FLARE, ; DIP, , ; WALTZ, 2, 3

Starting on inside feet, run fwd in RLOD 3 steps; repeat the step, kick-flare of meas 23 in reverse, stepping on outside feet and pivoting away from each other to face LOD, sweeping the inside foot clear around behind; take weight and dip on this sweeping foot, letting the free foot (man's R, woman's L) lift up from the floor on the third beat of the measure; on the last meas, step onto man's R (woman's L), maneuvering into closed pos, and do one R-face turning waltz.

29-32 WALTZ WHIRL (for three measures); TWIRL THE LADY

With R feet close together, couple makes a spot turn in place in 9 little steps; twirl the lady, and bow.