

Carousel (Sweden)

These notes ©2014. I learned this dance at Calgary Folk Dance Fridays about 20 years ago. Many thanks to Ann Kyle who has helped me reconstruct the dance. I used notes from the Lloyd Shaw Foundation and from "Basic Skills Series: Folk Dance in the Elementary School" (Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, 1980). This is a children's dance that is meant to replicate riding on a carousel.

Meter 4/4

Formation: Two circles. The inner circle of "horses" hold hands in a circle and face in. The outer circle of "riders" who either hold onto the hips of the horses or on their shoulders, depending upon height.

Bars 1-8 (Slow music): take 16 slow step closes to the left

Bars 9-16: Take 32 slip steps (sashay steps) to the left. (Alternatively these can be taken to the R, or take 16 to the left and 16 to the right). On the last few steps, exchange places with partner so that the riders become horses and the horses become riders.

The dance can be turned into a mixer by having the riders "fly off" and move one horse to the right or left depending upon the direction of the gallop.