

# Sex Change Schottis

(Sweden)

This schottis variant is representative of the modern times. In fact it is from the 1980s dances in Sweden. It is not tied to a specific region, but rather to the urban dance parties. It is a fun variation that is danced to the slower schottis melodies. I learned this variant from Tommy and Ewa Englund when they were teaching at Scandinavian Week at Buffalo Gap in 1987. The name is my own, as Tommy and Ewa said there was no special name for the dance.

Pronunciation:

Music: Any slow stately or old-style schottis from Sweden. 2/4, 4/4 meter

Schottis music is transcribed as both 2/4 and 4/4 (described here in 4/4).

Formation: Cpls dance in a circle, progressing CCW, LOD around the dance space.

Positions: When dancing in open pos, use the open shoulder/shoulder-blade hold. When dancing in closed pos, use the equilateral hold. In this hold, both the M and the W hold each other's upper back with their R hands and their L hands rest on the opp shldr.

Character: The dance has a smooth rolling wave, which is described as the svikt of down up on each beat. It is not a hopping, bouncy quality. Notes: I think of the dance as a gammal schottis as described by Gordon Tracie, with a S S Q Q S turning sequence.

Steps: Begin on outside ft. M and W dance on the opp ft at all times.

M begins on the inside of the circle with his L ft and, after the turning, ends on the outside, ready to begin again with the R ft.

W begins on the outside with her R ft and, after the turning, ends on the inside with the L ft free. With each dance sequence, the cpl will alternate beg from either the inside or outside pos.

TRAVELING STEP: Normal schottische steps as described below, with a smooth rolling down and up motion.

|                |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cts            | 1    | &    | 2    | &    | 3    | &    | 4    | &    |
|                | step | step | step | lift | step | step | step | lift |
| Inside person  | L    | R    | L    |      | R    | L    | R    |      |
| Outside person | R    | L    | R    |      | L    | R    | L    |      |
| svikt          | down | up   | down | up   | down | up   | down | up   |

TURNING STEP: The inside person turns CW three times in one meas, ending on the opp side from where he/she began. (The outside person only makes two complete CW turns.)

|                |      |    |      |    |       |       |      |    |
|----------------|------|----|------|----|-------|-------|------|----|
| Cts            | 1    | &  | 2    | &  | 3     | &     | 4    | &  |
| rhythmic cues  | slow |    | slow |    | quick | quick | slow |    |
|                | step |    | step |    | step  | step  | step |    |
| Inside person  | L    |    | R    |    | L     | R     | L    |    |
| Outside person | R    |    | L    |    | R     | L     | R    |    |
| svikt          | down | up | down | up | down  | up    | down | up |

Dance Sequence: Alternate one meas of schottische steps with one meas of turning, changing sides at the end of every two meas.

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