

ORAVAISTEN MENUETTI JA POLSKA  
(Finland)

Pronunciation:

Record:

Music: In 3/4 meter, counted with six counts to a meas.

Formation: An even number of cpls standing in two lines, W and M facing each other (W in one line and M in the other). Count off into odd and even cpls. M take ptr's L hands in their R hands, with arms somewhat bent at the elbow. Free hands hang loosely at sides.

Steps: Minuet step and Crossover step, buzz steps, walking.

Minuet Step #1:

- ct 1 Step with the L ft diag fwd in a 45° angle, L shldr slightly leading.  
 2 While rising somewhat onto the ball of the L ft, bring R ft alongside the L ft (toes pointed downward and almost touching the floor). No change of wt.  
 3 Bring R ft a step back to approximately its original pos, taking wt.  
 4 Start bringing L ft back alongside R.  
 5 Complete this movement, stepping on L.  
 6 Step R in place, while turning body diag fwd twd the R.

Minuet Step #2: Done using the same ftwk, although starting from the pos reached at the end of ct 6, turned at about a 45° angle to the R. End this step during cts 5 and 6, turning the body straight fwd.

Crossover step: Ptrs change places passing each other from the L (R shldrs) in two meas.

- ct 1 Step fwd with L ft.  
 2 Bring R toe alongside L ft, without taking wt.  
 3 Step fwd with R ft.  
 4 Bring L toe alongside R ft.  
 5 Step fwd with L ft.  
 6 Bring R ft alongside the L taking wt.  
 7 Step fwd with L ft.  
 8 Bring R toe alongside the L ft, not taking wt.  
 9 Step with the R ft horizontal in front of the L.  
 10 Starting to turn CCW, bring the L toe alongside the R ft.  
 11 Step fwd with the L ft twd ptr.  
 12 Step with the R ft alongside the L.

Ftwk is identical for M and W.

ORAVAISTEN MENUETTI JA POLSKA (continued)MeasPatternPATTERN I.

- 1 Minuet step #1, with handhold.  
 2 Minuet step #2 releasing handhold on ct 5.  
 3-4 Crossover step to ptr's place.  
 5-6 Minuet steps #1 and #2 without handhold.  
 7-8 Crossover step to return to original pos.  
 1-8 rptd Repeat action of meas 1-8.  
 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8, with stamping and clapping pattern as described below:

- 9-10 rptd Action is same as meas 5-6.  
 11 Action is same as meas 3, except that lead M -- as a signal to the other M that a new pattern is about to start -- stamps with his R ft on ct 3.  
 12-14 Action is same as meas 4-6.  
 15 As the M return to their original places, this time they all stamp R and L on cts 3 and 5.  
 16 While turning round on the R ft (ct 3), all M clap hands once. While clapping, M hands are held at shldr height.

PATTERN II.

- 9-10 rptd All dance Minuet steps #1 and #2, without handhold. On the 3rd ct of each meas, M clap once.  
 11-12 Ptrs pass each other with R shldr giving R hands to each other. Begin this step as in the Crossover, after passing one another begin turning around each other, ending in each other's places. Cts 5 and 6 (step L and R) turning to the R with hands still joined. The steps on cts 1-6: step L to the L (ct 1); bring R alongside the L (ct 2); step R to the R (ct 3); bring L alongside R (ct 4); steps on cts 5-6 in place.  
 13-14 Minuet steps #1 and #2, retaining handhold.  
 15-16 With ftwk similar to that used in the Crossover step, ptrs now go around each other CCW to own places. In meas 16, M bow slowly and W curtsey to ptrs (cts 3,4), rising on cts 5,6, and release handhold (ct 6).

PATTERN I.

- 1-8 Repeat action of meas 1-8, Pattern I, twice, with the following change on second sequence: During meas 3, lead M gives signal stamp on ct 3 (as in meas 11), and during meas 7-8 all M stamp and clap as originally danced in meas 15-16. (Pattern I).

PATTERN II.

- 9-16 Repeat action of Pattern II, but after turning together CW, and while turning CCW, W release their R handhold and give M their L hands instead. The minuet ends with the M bringing the joined hands up and down in a slow CW circle, then bowing deeply while the W curtsies deeply to him (meas 16, cts 1-6).

ORAVAISTEN MENUETTI JA POLSKA (continued)PATTERN III. THE POLSKA.

The polska is danced immediately after the minuet in fours. As soon as the minuet is finished, W release their L handhold and give R hands to ptr with a thumb grasp. Odd W pass behind even W to form a star in which odd cpl's hands are joined over the even cpl. L hands are hanging freely at sides.

- 1-4 Starting with R ft walk 12 steps CW (all described above happens on the first ct). Lead M stamp on cts 2,3 of meas 4, to signal start of the polska turn.
- 5-6 Twelve flat buzz steps, with the R ft twd the ctr of the star. The thumb hold is retained but dancers grab with L hands from underneath the upper arm of the dancer ahead (ct 1).
- 9-16 All turn CW to re-form star, this time with a L hand thumb grip facing CCW. Do the same walking and polska as before, but starting with L ft.
- 17-32 Repeat action of meas 1-16, Pattern III, ending the dance with a jump onto both ft in the final measure.

Presented by Susanna Daley