

EL MOSQUITO

The music for the dance El Mosquito is essentially a battle hymn composed between the years 1864 and 1867 by two soldiers of the troops of Benito Juarez. The composers were the rural teacher N. Sanchez and the musician Gabino Aspiroz who at the time were on a military expedition in the region of Tuxtepec in the mountains of the northern part of the state of Oaxaca. The tune was used as a battle hymn by the soldiers of the Sierra Juarez until about the year 1896. Today, this song is sung with great regional fervor and is considered a regional hymn in certain parts of the mountainous regions of the state of Oaxaca, especially in the town of Teococuilco de Marcos Perez. It is also considered to be a son (dance tune) of the Sierra Juarez and is very often used to dance the typical steps of this region.

Music: Record: Peerless 1097 "Mexican Regional Dances", Side B, band 2 2/4 meter

Formation: Cpls in a double circle, about 6 ft apart, M back to ctr.

Steps: El Mosquito Step: Step and cross R ft over L at same time lifting L to rear (cts 1 &), step L in place to rear (cts 2 &), step R to R side (cts 1 &), step and cross L over R at same time lifting R to rear (cts 2 &), step R in place to rear (cts 1 &), step L to L side (cts 2 &). Repeat step from beginning crossing R over L.
Zapateado: Hop on R (ct &), stamp L without taking wt (ct 1), hop on R (ct &), stamp L without taking wt (ct 2), hop on R (ct &), stamp L without taking wt (ct 1), stamp L without taking wt (ct &), stamp L without taking wt (ct 2). Step repeats with leap onto L for ct &. NOTE: It takes 2 meas to complete 1 Zapateado Step. The step may also begin with a hop on L ft.

M and W are on same ft throughout the dance.

Measures	Pattern
1-8	Introduction
	FIG I (CROSS OVER)
1-7	Ptrs change places dancing El Mosquito Step and turn to face ptrs on meas 7. M and W begin R ft.
8	Stamp R ft in place (cts 1-2).
9-15	Return to own place dancing El Mosquito Step beginning M and W on L ft and turning to face ptr on meas 15.
16	Stamp L ft in place (cts 1-2).
17-32	Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-16.
	FIG II (ZAPATEADO)
1-6	Dance 3 Zapateado Steps in place beginning R.
7	Leap onto L (ct &), stamp R, no wt (ct 1), hop on L (ct &), stamp R, no wt (ct 2).
8	Hop on L (ct &), stamp R, taking wt (cts 1-2).
9-14	Dance 3 Zapateado Steps in place beginning L.
15	Leap onto R (ct &), stamp L, no wt (ct 1), hop on R (ct &), stamp L, no wt (ct 2).
16	Hop on R (ct &), stamp L taking wt (cts 1-2).
	Repeat the dance from the beginning.

Presented by Al Pill

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