

Galoppa

(Italy)

This dance comes from Emilia-Romagna and has a relatively recent origin. Galoppa appeared for the first time in the first half of 19th century as a variation to the polka, called Gallop. Today it can be found in the region of Bologna in the valleys Savena and Reno.

Pronunciation: gah-LOHP-pah

Music: 6/8 meter, counted 1, 2 CD: *Danze Italiane vol. 2*, Band 10

Formation: Four couples, one behind the other in a column; couple 1 in front. W to R of M. M takes W L hand in his R hand. Five cpl sets will work, but 6 is too many.

Meas Music: 6/8 meter Pattern

INTRODUCTION None. Start with music.

- I. FIGURE I - Follow the Leader
- 1-16 Beg with R, dance 32 walking steps, moving in any direction around the dance floor. All the cpls follow Cpl 1.
- II. FIGURE II - Separate and Rejoin
- 1-16 Beg with R, Cpl 1 casts off and dance 32 walking steps around the dance floor, all M to L, following M1, and all W to R, following W1, ending again side by side with partner. Head cpl must keep track of one another on the dance floor so that they reform the column of cpls several beats before the end of the phrase to be ready for Fig III.
- III. FIGURE III
- 1-8 Releasing hands, Cpl 1 dance skipping bwd on the outside of the column of cpls, M1 on M side, W1 on W side, until they meet each other at the bottom of the set, *while* the other cpls face each other, step a little apart, and form an arch with their raised and joined hands; Cpl 1 dance (walking step can be done here instead of skipping) fwd under arch, until they arrive again in front. Cpl 1 separates again, and dances bwd down the outside of the set, ending at the bottom of the set.
- 9-16 Cpl 2 dance the same way, until they end at the bottom of the set. Note: Cpl 2 begins on the start of the meas and even if Cpl 1 has not finished.

Repeat dance from beg (Fig I) lead by Cpl 3 and Figure III done by Cpls 3 and 4.
Repeat dance (Figs I-III) until the music changes.

Galoppa—continued

V. FIGURE V (TRESKA) - Finale

Cpls space themselves freely about the floor, facing ptr, without holding hands. Dancers move together fwd and back (M beg with fwd movement), on a CCW elliptical trajectory, keeping the same distance between themselves, and flirting and inviting the ptr to follow. The ellipse also shifts slowly CCW around the dance floor. Steps can be walking or skipping, with other improvisational figures possible. M can crouch forward a little, especially on the fwd movements. Sequence can end with M stepping with L ft crossing in front of R and making a complete turn quickly to L to end facing ptr.

Presented by Roberto Bagnoli