

Name of dance: Krakoviak

Pronunciation: krah-koh-VYAHK

Place of origin: Donbas region of southeast Ukraine

Source of music: *Russian Dances Selected by Hennie Konings*, Stockton 2006, Band 18

Learned from: Hennie Konings, 2006

About the dance: Krakoviak originated in Kracow, Poland, and spread throughout Byelorussia, Russia, and the Ukraine during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with different variations emerging in different regions. In most versions, it remains a couple dance with the same partner, but in this version from the southeast Ukraine, one progresses to a new partner at each repeat of the dance.

Rhythm: 2/4

Formation: Couples stand in a circle facing one's own partner, with men's R hands joined to women's L hands and extended at chest level toward the CCW direction of travel around the circle. Free hands are on hips, women's free R hands resting on their knuckles with fingers pointing back, and men's free L hands resting with thumbs back and fingers pointing forward. All stamps are done on the heel.

<u>Direction</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Step</u>
	1-8	<u>Introduction:</u> No action.
		<u>Figure I:</u> <i>Note: In this figure, men and women use opposite footwork, and begin with the outside foot free.</i>
♂♀→	1	Moving in the line of travel, dance one "balance step" turning away from partner and swinging joined hands forward in line of travel while free hands extend to the side at waist level. For <b>men</b> , the balance step is as follows: step on L with a slight knee bend (ct. 1), step forward on R, rising slightly (ct. &), step on L close to R, bending knee slightly (ct. 2), pause (ct. &). <b>Women</b> use opposite footwork.
	2	Continuing in the line of travel, dance one "balance step" turning toward partner ( <b>men</b> step LRL, <b>women</b> step RLR), swinging joined hands back to their original position and returning free hands to hips.
	3-4	Repeat Measures 1-2.
	5-6	Dance three steps forward, bringing joined hands forward and extending free hand out to the side as before (cts. 1,2,1), stamp on inside heel without weight (ct. 2).
←♂♀	7-8	Dance three steps back along line of travel while turning to face partner, bringing joined hands back to their original position and returning free hands to hips (cts. 1,2,1), stamp

Direction	Measure	Step
		<u>Figure I</u> (continued):
♂♀→	9	on free outside heel without weight (ct. 2). Repeat Measure 1.
	10	Repeat Measure 2, but end by taking closed ballroom position with partner with man's back toward center.
	11-16	Use six "balance steps" to make three complete CW turns with your partner in the line of travel. On the last measure the <b>man</b> takes only 2 steps to end with his weight on L. The couple ends standing side by side facing the line of travel, holding L hands extended forward at chest level, with the <b>woman's</b> R hand on her R hip, and the <b>man's</b> R arm extended behind the woman.
		<u>Figure II</u> :
		<i>Note: In this figure, men and women use the same footwork, and begin with R feet free.</i>
♂♀→	1-2	Dance three steps forward on RLR (cts. 1,2,1), stamp on L slightly forward without weight (ct. 2).
←♂♀	3-4	Repeat Measures 1-2 with opposite footwork backing up.
♂↑	5-6	Change places with three steps of RLR, <b>woman</b> toward the inside and <b>man</b> toward the outside, with the <b>woman</b> turning CW under the man's raised L hand to end facing her partner with her back to the center while L hands stay joined in front (cts. 1,2,1), stamp on L heel without weight (ct. 2).
↓♀		
↑♀	7-8	Reverse the pattern of Measures 5-6, changing places with partner with three steps LRL, the <b>woman</b> turning under the man's L hand to end facing her partner with the man's back to the center (cts. 1,2,1), stamp R heel without weight and join R hands in front (ct. 2).
♂↓		
↓	9	Balance toward partner, stepping forward on R (ct. 1), on L next to R (ct. &), and on R in place (ct. 2), pause (ct. &).
↑	10	Balance away from partner with opposite footwork and direction as in Measure 9.
↑	11-12	Repeat Measures 9-10.
↓	13-16	Do-sa-do progression with hands in loose fists at waist: dance 4 steps forward RLRL to pass R shoulders with partner (cts. 1,2,1,2), then take 4 steps diagonally backward to the R to meet a new partner (cts. 1,2,1,2). On the last measure, the <b>man</b> does not take weight on the last step on L, leaving his L foot free to begin the dance again. Return

<u>Direction</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Step</u>
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Figure II (continued):  
to original position of holding each other's inside hands  
and resting outside hands on hips.

Repeat the dance from the beginning with a new partner.

dance notes by Hennie Konings  
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