

MUSKRAT RAMBLE

A dance by Jerry and Charlie Tuffield of Denver, Colorado.

Record: LS X-96, 236-45

Position: Open with inside hands joined, opposite footwork throughout, directions for man.

Measures:

1-2 WALK, WALK; STEP-CLOSE, TURN-SWING

Walk fwd two steps (L, R); then two-step fwd, pivoting half RF turn on second step, swinging R fwd in RLOD (woman turns L).

3-4 WALK, WALK; STEP-CLOSE, STEP-TOUCH

Repeat meas 1, moving RLOD (R, L); then two-step, pivoting quarter turn to face partner, touch L ending with man's back to COH.

5-8 STEP, POINT; STEP, POINT; TWO-STEP; TWO-STEP

Step bwd on L, point R bwd (woman fwd R, point L fwd); man steps fwd R, point L fwd; then two turning two-steps almost full around, ending closed pos, man facing LOD.

9-12 STEP, POINT; STEP, POINT; TWO-STEP; TWO-STEP

Step fwd on L, point R fwd; step bwd on R, point L bwd; two fwd two-steps ending in open pos, inside hands joined.

13-16 TWO-STEP; TWO-STEP; TURN; AWAY

Two two-steps fwd beginning man's L; turn away from each other 4 walking steps, L, R, L, R (man turning to L, woman to R), ending in semi-closed pos facing LOD.

17-18 WALK, WALK; POINT FWD, STEP BACK

Walk two steps fwd, L, R; point L fwd, step back on L.

(Point fwd abt 10 inches in front, then step back, not beside R, but about 10 inches behind R)

19-20 WALK, WALK; POINT BACK, STEP FWD

Walk bwd two steps, R, L; point R back, step fwd R. End in closed pos.

21-24 TWO-STEP; TWO-STEP; TWIRL; TWIRL

Two turning two-steps, turning once to R; then as man takes 4 steps LOD, L, R, L, R, woman twirls under her own R and man's L arm, doing two complete turns in 4 steps.

25-26 Repeat meas 17-18.

27-28 Repeat meas 19-20.

29-32 Repeat meas 21-24.

Maneuver into starting pos and repeat the dance 3 times. At the finish of the dance, end with a bow.

Measures 17-20 and 25-28 can be danced with a Charleston style, and a decided Charleston kick-up is preferred. In fact, this whole dance is tremendously loved by those who once danced the "Charleston." Try to get into the mood by holding the seat back and the knees well forward on meas 17-20 and 25-28. Keep the knees almost locked together, toe-in a little and brush with the ball of the foot as you fling the heels outward in characteristic Charleston abandon. Real "Charleston experts" will cut loose a little on a few other measures as well.