

1959 SANTA BARBARA FOLK DANCE CONFERENCE

Presented by Albert S. Pill  
(For Children)

LA CUCARACHA

Mexico

*the  
Cochranes*

RECORD: Folkraft 1424.

FORMATION: Partners facing in lines: Man's hands clasped behind his back;  
Girls's hands at sides holding skirts, arms bent, elbows out.

Cucaracha Step: Swing and step on Right foot across in front of  
Left (count 1), step back on Left foot (count 2), step on Right  
foot in place beside L foot (count 3). Reverse beginning with  
the Left foot.

NOTE: Accent the first step each time and keep the knees bent  
and turned out.

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Music

Pattern

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meas

1-16 FIGURE I  
Partners facing in lines, do 16 Cucaracha steps.

FIGURE II  
1 Each one moves to own Right with 3 steps (Leap R, step L, step R).  
2 Stamp twice (L,R).  
3 Turn to own R in place with 3 steps (R,L,R).  
4 Stamp twice (L,R).  
5 Each one moves to own Left with 3 steps (Leap L, step R, step L).  
6 Stamp twice (R,L).  
7 Turn to own L in place with 3 steps (L,R,L).  
8 Stamp twice (R,L).  
9-16 Repeat action of measures 1-8 as described above.

The dance is repeated several times, alternating figures I and  
II. With especially skilled groups, one might alternate figure  
II with a cross-over pattern using the same footwork. This is  
described below.

FIGURE III  
1 Partners change places, passing R shoulders, with 3 running steps  
(R,L,R).  
2 Stamp twice (L,R).  
3 Make  $\frac{1}{2}$  turn to own Right to face partner (in exchanged places)  
with 3 steps (R,L,R).  
4 Stamp twice (L,R).  
5 Return to own place, passing R shoulders, with 3 running steps  
(L,R,L).

*Continued...*

## La Cucaracha

- 6 Stamp twice (R,L)
- 7 Make  $\frac{1}{2}$  turn to own Left to face partner with 3 steps (L,R,L).
- 8 Stamp twice (R,L).
- 9-16 Repeat action of measures 1-8 as described on previous page.

You can dance the La Cucaracha just alternating Figures I and II for the entire record. With skilled groups you will dance Figures I-II-I-III-I-II-I-III till end of record.