

## RANCHERA

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Couple dance from Uruguay.

Record: Instituto de Educaion del Uruguay, Record # 004

Formation: Couples side by side, holding inside hands with Woman, on Right

Background: This dance has been danced since 1850 at all Uruguayan festivities. Its lively tune has made it the most popular dance. It is also danced in southern Brazil where other forms of rancheras have local characteristics. Here it is called ranchera gaucha.

Steps Use Waltz step.

- Figure 1 Move forward 1 waltz step (Men start with Left foot, Women with Right) Turning toward each other, join inside hands (Man's Left, Woman's Right) with waltz turn to face in the oppoiate direction. Turn toward each other and with 1 waltz step swing joined hands (Man's Right, Woman's Left) forward and backward with another waltz step with two waltz steps turn away from partner and clap on final count.
- Figure 2 (Square) In ballroom position couple move forward with two waltz steps. With two waltz turn  $\frac{3}{4}$  to face position 2 (See Diagram). Repeat this 3 more times to end up in original position except that on last turn couple only turns  $\frac{1}{2}$  t face in opposite direction as at the beginning.
- Figure 3 Repeat figure 1 except that Woman is on man's is on man's left (facing toward back)
- Figure 4 Waltz freely around the floor for 16 measures.
- Figure 5 Man holds woman's right hand in his left. With one waltz step woman turns under joined hands to her right. With one more waltz step couples balance away from one another. Repeat this 2 more times, (3 times total). On 7th measure turn woman under as before, but on eighth measure couple changes into varsouvienne position with woman on man's left.
- Figure 6 In varsouvienne position couples change places with each other with one waltz step. Repeat this seven more times (eight total) in place. Repeat eight more times moving forward as the couple exchange places. The floor pattern is not set; dancers move freely around the room.
- Figure 7 Repeat Figure 1.

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