

## La Valse des Violettes

(France)

La Valse des Violettes (lah VAHLS day vee-oh-LEHT), from Alsace, is a variant of the "Family Waltz." The melody was noted in a village near Vendenheim. Germain and Louise Hébert learned the dance from Solange Panis and Huguette Gautier at Pont-Chrétien in April 1972. Germain presented it at the 1993 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

**CASSETTES:** Chants et Danses des Provinces Francaises—G. Hébert, Stockton 93 Side A/4;3/4 meter  
North-South Teacher's Seminar—G. Hébert, 1992 Side B/4 (two selections).

**RECORD:** Rythme 4009b (45 rpm).

**FORMATION:** Couples in a circle. Ptrs face with M back to ctr. Join hands with ptr straight across (R with L).

**STEPS and** Waltz\*.

**STYLING:** Step-Swing: Step on L ft, bending L knee a little (ct 1); swing R leg, with knee slightly bent, across in front of L leg while straightening L knee (cts 2-3). Step alternates.

\* Described in *Steps and Styling*, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

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MUSIC	3/4 meter	PATTERN
Measures		<u>INTRODUCTION.</u> Varies with recording. No action.
		I. <u>STEP-SWING AND WOMAN TURNS</u>
A 1-2		Beg M L, W R dance 2 Step-Swings. Joined hands swing slightly in same direction as swinging leg. At end, release M L, W R hands.
3-4		<u>M:</u> Beg L, dance 6 small steps (1 to a ct) in place, helping ptr to turn CW under joined hands. <u>W:</u> Beg R, turn once CW under joined hands with 5 steps. End by touching L ft to R (no wt) (meas 4, ct 3). At end, change joined hands to M L, W, R.
5-6		<u>M:</u> Repeat ftwk of meas 3 but help ptr to turn once CCW. <u>W:</u> Repeat meas 3-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
7-13		Beg M L, W R dance 7 waltz steps in closed ballroom pos, turning CW and moving in LOD (CCW). End with M facing ctr.
14		Dancing one more waltz step (M dance in place), release ballroom hold and form one circle, W to R of ptr, all facing ctr. Join hands in V-pos.

II. WALTZ PROGRESSION

- B 1 Beg M L, W R dance 1 waltz step turning to face corner. With elbows straight, swing hands joined with ptr (M R, W L) twd ctr of circle; other hands swing away from ctr.
- 2 With opp ftwk and direction, dance 1 waltz step turning to face ptr. Hands joined with ptr move away from ctr; other hands twd ctr.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 5-8 Keeping hands joined with corner, take closed ballroom pos and dance 4 waltz steps turning CW and moving in LOD. Make 1 3/4 turns, stopping with M back to ctr, W facing ctr. Rejoin hands straight across (as in Fig I) to start dance with this new ptr.

DANCE SEQUENCE: Each of the recordings listed has a different arrangement.

Stockton 93: 4 meas intro. Dance pattern 6 times and end with Fig I.

N-S Teacher's Seminar: Selection I—4 meas intro. Dance pattern 3 times and end with Fig I.

Selection II—6 meas intro. Dance pattern 6 times.

Rythme 4009: 8 meas intro. Dance pattern 6 times.