

Valse Lancier

Québec – Canada

A dance from the late 19th century influenced by the European Quadrille form.

Translation: The Lancer's Waltz

Rhythm: 6/8, 3/4, and 2/4 meters

Formation: Four couples in a square set. Man's Right hand holding Woman's Right hand, bent elbow.

Introduction: After the caller's introduction, everyone bows to the partner and to the corner.

Figure 1: First and third couples present & four steps to corner (6/8)

- 1-2 Couples 1 and 3 walk towards each other with 4 steps and bow
- 3-4 Couples 1 and 3 walk back to place with 4 steps and partners bow to each other
- 5-8 Repeat measures 1-4
- 9-10 Everyone individually walks 4 steps to meet left shoulders with corner and bows
- 11-12 Everyone individually walks back home with 4 steps and bows to partner
- 13-16 Repeat measures 9-12

Figure 2: First and third couples waltz (3/4)

- 1-16 Couples 1 and 3 waltz CCW inside the square, back to place with a courtesy turn: Man's R holds Woman's L, Woman turns CW under Man's arm. Finish with a bow.

Figure 3: Second and fourth couples present and do the "chase" (6/8)

- 1-8 Couples 2 and 4 do the same figure as in Figure 1 measures 1-8
- 9-16 Man 2 and Man 4 go behind their partners and put 2 hands on Woman's shoulders and as couples do a "do-si-do" passing left shoulders to get back home and bow to partner

Figure 4: Second and fourth couples waltz (3/4)

- 1-16 Repeat Figure 2 with couples 2 and 4.

Figure 5: Grand "chain" (2/4)

- 1-6 Partners face each other and take Right hands and proceed forward to take next persons Left hand (Grand right-and-left) using six "Spandy" steps*, bouncing on L first, and everyone meets partner on opposite side of set.
***"Spandy" step:** Bounce twice on L foot pointing R foot forward (cts 1 &), step forward on R (ct 2). The next Spandy step is done with opposite footwork.
- 7 Do Spandy step bouncing on L (cts 1 & 2) ending with a brush L heel forward (ct &)
- 8 Light hop on R (ct 1), two light stamps in place L, R (cts & 2)
- 9-16 Repeat measures 1-8 to end in original position.

Figure 6: Final waltz (3/4)

- 1-2 Couples join inside hands, and side-by-side do 2 waltz steps forward to centre of square
- 3-4 Changing hands, couples do 2 waltz steps facing out (back to place)
- 5-8 Each couple waltzes 1/4 turn to next couple's place on their right (CCW)
- 9-32 Repeat measures 1-8 three more times until all couples return to home position and do a final courtesy turn with the partner.