

Elvira

U.S.A.

This tune is also used for a country line dance and a contra dance.

Translation: Elvira is a woman's name.

Record: On many country music recordings, several by the Oak Ridge Boys.

Steps: Walk, Side, Cross, Clap, Two-handed swing.

Formation: Circle of partners standing two by two all facing LOD, women on the outside, L hands joined, and R hands joined in front cross, skater's or promenade position.

Introduction: 15 beats. Start with the singing, on 16th beat.

Counts

Pattern

Part 1

- 1-4 Walk forward three steps starting with outside foot. (Woman's R, Man's L) Leaving weight on outside foot, lift that heel, bend that knee, and "chug" forward (move that foot forward without leaving the ground).
- 5-8 Repeat 1-4 starting with the inside foot. (Woman's L, Man's R)

For more dramatic styling, join inside hands only and move in LOD sideways, facing each other on counts 1-4, and back to back on counts 5-8.

Part 2

- 1-4 Drop joined hands. Step to the side, away from partner starting with outside foot (Woman's R, Man's L), cross behind outside foot with inside foot, step to the side with outside foot. Clap both hands.
- 5-8 Step to the side, toward partner with the inside foot (Woman's L, Man's R), cross in front of inside foot with outside foot, step to the side with inside foot. Women clap R hand with men's L (outside hands).

Part 3

- 1-8 In four steps each dancer walks slowly (2 counts to a step) in one small circle first away from partner, then toward partner. Women walk clockwise, men counterclockwise. Hands are raised in the air at shoulder height and shaken during Part 3. Partners should end facing each other.

Part 4

- 1-8 Still facing, partners join hands, L to L and R to R. Swing by leaning back and walking 8 steps around counterclockwise, starting with R foot and ending in original position, ready to start the dance again.

Step talk:

Forward, 2, 3, Chug. Forward, 2, 3, Chug.
Side, Behind, Side, Clap. Side, Cross, Side, Slap.
Circle 2, 3, 4. Swing 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Ready.

Source: Unknown