

Congress of Vienna

Choreography by John Hertz
Transcription by Tom Hill, Last updated 2023-10-01

The dance starts with the introduction, then parts A and B repeat, and then the music ends with a part A. The number of As and Bs is up to the band. The original music is ABABABABA, which is 8 minutes and 10 seconds. Most commonly played now are ABABA or ABABABA.

Introduction

Intro 4 Measures	Face your partner one measure one. Acknowledge/smile at your partner on measure two. Bow or Curtsy during measure three, turn to face line of dance during four.
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Part A

Open Waltz 4 Measures	During measure four, return to closed dance position for rotary waltz. Don't swing your free hand wildly. It should be beside you, not behind you.
Rotary Waltz 10 Measures	During measure ten, release the lady to open position, side by side, facing line of dance, lady on man's right.
Open Waltz 4 Measures	Remember to start each section with the correct foot (man's left, lady's right). <i>This is in opposition, man's left foot, and right hand move forward.</i>
Rotary Waltz 10 Measures	
Open Waltz 8 Measures	
Rotary Waltz 8 Measures	On last measure, open to facing, two hand hold, ideally with the man facing out.

Part B

Windows (wind) 4 Measures	Man raises right hand, lady turns $\frac{3}{4}$ turn under, to her left. Man turns $\frac{1}{4}$ turn to his right to complete the window during the fourth measure.
Windows (turn) 4 Measures ¹	Both man and lady walk forward for four measures.
Windows (unwind) 4 Measures	Take two measures to unwind, and two measures to wind the other direction.
Windows (turn) 4 Measures	Both man and lady walk forward for four measures.
Unwind 1 Measure	Man should be facing out at this point, but it's not critical.
Lady to Man's Left 4 Measures	Man leads lady to his left, lets go with his left, and places the lady's left hand in his left. Lady walks all the way around behind him, ending on his right.
Circle 4 Measures	Man walks backward, lady forward.
Pause 1 Measure	Original choreography was a plié, but that's rarely done..
Lady to Man's Right 4 Measures	Man leads lady back to his left. Take your time, four measures is a long time to walk four feet.
Circle 4 Measures	Man walks backward, lady forward.
Return to Front 1 Measure	Ideally, man should be facing outward. This will leave you facing line of dance after the windows. If not, use the windows to adjust your facing.
Windows (wind) 4 Measures	See above
Windows (turn) 4 Measures	See above
Unwind 1 Measure	Unwind to side by side, facing line of dance, to start part A.

¹ The Brassworks/Bangers and Mash versions have an additional measure here. Just continue the turn.