

Vigga Schottis (Sweden - Norway)

This dance was created in Sweden in 2004 for the 50th anniversary of the folk dance organization in Örebro. The choreographers, Ingrid and Arne Larsson and Birgitta and Rune Sunvisson, called it Jubileumsschottis. It is created from two separate dances, called Vigga schottis and Sidstegsschottis. In the USA, I have decided to use the simpler name Vigga schottis for the whole dance.

The choreographers were inspired by the opening figure of Rørospols, so Vigga schottis starts with a similar figure. At the 50th anniversary events, Birgitta and Rune taught the dance to their sister group from Norway, Springar'n (where Alix is the main instructor). From there the dance style has become "Norwegianized" (that is, reinlender instead of schottis) and Alix has spread it widely in Norway and in the USA.

Recordings: Any "square" schottis or reinlender, preferably one with two 8 measure phases played AABB. One I use is "Reinlender etter Hans W Brimi", recorded by Syver's Orkester on their album "Syvers".

Meter: 2/4

Formation: Couples in a circle, facing LOD, W on M's R. W is slightly behind M. Join nearer hands (it works best if M hand is on top of W's).

Steps: Reinlender step: Step on L (ct 1), step on R beside or in front of L (ct &), step on L (ct 2), lift or hop (ct &). Repeats with opp ftwk. Norwegian style is one bounce on every step.
Reinlender turn: Step on L (ct 1), lift or hop on L (ct &). Repeats with opp ftwk. When turning, it takes one meas (2 step-lifts) to make a full turn (normally done CW).

Meas Movement

Fig 1 – Pols opening

- 1 Beginning M L and W R, dance one reinlender step forward in LOD.
- 2 One reinlender step, M R and W L, with W crossing to inside behind M. M changes hands from his R to his L. Now L hands are joined.
- 3-4 Two more reinlender steps with W coming up on the inside of M, and then crossing to the outside under the joined hands. There are no turns – both are facing roughly LOD the whole time.
- 5-7 Keeping L hands joined, M places them on his own R shoulder. Partners face and hold R arm around waist (or a little higher). Six reinlender turn steps, turning 3 times CW while moving in LOD.
- 8 Two reinlender turn steps, starting M L and W R. M does them in place, while he turns W once CW under joined L arms. End facing center of circle, W on M R, L hands still joined.

Fig 2 - Greek border facing in

In this figure, all do the Greek border “meander” pattern: one reinlender step forward or back from the center, one moving to the side. W always uses R forward and back, and L to side. M uses L forward and back, and R to side. Drop hands during the first two meas.

- 1 W dance one reinlender step R forward toward center. It works best if W move only a small distance. M stand still.
- 2 W dance one reinlender step L to L (i.e. moving CW around the circle on the inside track.) W pass in front of ptr to next “hole”. M stand still.
- 3 W dance one reinlender step R bkwd away from center. M dance one reinlender step L forward toward center. Now, W are on the outside track and M are on the inside track.
- 4 W dance one reinlender step L toward L. M dance one reinlender step R to R. Pass one person on the other track. W are still on the outside track and M are on the inside.
- 5 W dance one reinlender step R forward toward center, while M dance one reinlender step L bkwd away from center. W are now on the inside track, while M are on the outside.
- 6 W dance one reinlender step L to L, while men dance one reinlender step R to R. Pass one person on the other track.
- 7 W dance one reinlender step R bkwd away from center, while M dance one reinlender step L forward toward center.
- 8 W dance one reinlender step L to L, while men dance one reinlender step R to R. Do not pass the person in the other track, but instead join with them as your new ptr.

Fig 3 – Pols opening

- 1-8 Repeat meas 1-8 of Fig 1. However, this time end facing away from the center of the circle. L hands are still joined, and W is on M’s L. On meas 8, W turns 1 1/2 CW, while M also turns 1/2 CW (i.e. an extra 1/2 turn on the spot for each person).

Fig 4 - Greek border facing out

This is “the same” as fig 2, but facing out. M begin, still dancing L forward and back and R to side. W “cheat” with L reinlender step to L on meas 2. As in Fig 2, you do not pass a person on meas 8, but instead take this person as your new ptr.

- 1 M dance one reinlender step L forward away from center. W stand still. It works best if M move only a small distance.

- 2 M dance one reinlender step R to R (i.e. moving CW around the circle on the outside track). M pass in front of corner W who is on his R. W dance one reinlender step L to L in order to help M pass the first W (in the original choreography, W stood still).
- 3 M dance one reinlender step L bkwd toward center. W dance one reinlender step R forward away from center. Now, W are on the outside track and M are on the inside track.
- 4 M dance one reinlender step R to R. W dance one reinlender step L to L. Pass one person on the other track. M are still on the inside track and W are on the outside.
- 5 M dance one reinlender step L forward away from center, while W dance one reinlender step R bkwd toward center. M are now on the outside track, while W are on the inside.
- 6 M dance one reinlender step R to R, while W dance one reinlender step L to L. Pass one person on the other track.
- 7 M dance one reinlender step L bkwd toward center, while W dance one reinlender step R forward away from center.
- 8 M dance one reinlender step R to R, while W dance one reinlender step L to L. Do not pass the person in the other track, but instead join with them as your new ptr.

Although you move back around the circle toward your original ptr in this figure, the dance still changes ptr – you will have moved one place.

For recreational dancing, use only Fig 1 and 2 – that is, the Greek border figure is always facing in. For performance groups, it is nice to include the facing out figure. Of course, everyone in the circle must agree which version to dance.

Presented by Alix Cordray