

E-18

In Sweden during the 1990s, Svenske Ungdomsringen in Stockholm held choreography competitions in party dances. Many of these are published in "Lila boken - Bytesdansar" (1999). E-18 was a winning entry in 1998, and the dance became popular throughout Norway and Sweden. In Norway, we have shamelessly "Norwegianized" it, something that usually happens with traded gammeldans variants.

E-18 is the name of the main highway between Stockholm and Oslo. The dance is a polka mixer composed by Siv Karlsson and Gunnar Persson of the group Dansfolket.

- Source: 2/4. Lila boken, Svenska Ungdomsringen for Bygdekultur (now called Folkdansringen).
- Music: A quick Scandinavian polka with "square" phrasing.
- Formation: Couples in one large circle facing center, holding hands at shoulder height, woman at partner's right.
- Steps: Walking, Buzz step, polka step. Polka step: step on L (ct 1), step on R beside L (ct &), step on L (ct 2). Repeats with opp ftwk. The step has a down-up-down feeling.

Meas Pattern

- 1-2 Walk four steps L-R-L-R fwd twd center.
- 3-4 Walk four steps L-R-L-R bkwd away from center.
- 5-6 Walk four steps L-R-L-R fwd twd center.
- 7-8 Face ptr and clap 4 times. (In the original description, it says that the M backs out with 4 steps, while W turn twd ptr and clap 4 times. In Oslo, we have never done it this way.)
- 9-12 Everyone walk fwd 8 steps alone, W inside moving CW, M outside moving CCW.
- 13-16 Turn half way round (CCW say the original directions), and walk 8 steps fwd back to original place. Go past your original ptr and on to the next.
- 17-24 16 R buzz steps turning CW in place with new ptr in shoulder-waist hold (original says hambo hold).
- 25-32 8 meas of regular polka turn. That is, dance 8 polka steps turning CW with ptr, 2 meas per turn, moving LOD. M begins L and W R.

To start over, open into circle with new ptr on Ms R.