

BRANLE a' SIX (France)

Source: Learned and danced in France by Anatol Joukowsky. Dance comes from Brittany. This description fits the dance as done by the French Boy Scout Exhibition Group. Other descriptions show very minor differences.

Record: *Special Recording*

Formation: A set of 1 M between 2 W, facing another set of the same. Sets stand 10-12 ft apart. If more than 1 set dances, sets should line up side by side so lines are formed as in contra dances. M has ~~feet~~ ^{back of hands} on hips. W hook near arm through M arm. W free hand holds skirts. Whenever hands are free W hold skirts, M ~~feet~~ ^{back of hands} are on hips.

RW LW

O---X---O

O---X---O

LW RW

Steps: Walk*, Skip*
*Described in volumes of Folk Dances from Near and Far, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

Measures Pattern

2 meas Introduction

I. Forward and Clap

- 1 Beg R, walk fwd 3 steps (1 to a ct). Hop on R (ct. 4).
On hop, L knee is lifted high with ft next to supporting leg.
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1, beg L. On hop on L (ct. 4) M clap hands straight across.
- 3 - 4 Repeat action of meas 1-2 but moving bwd to place. Omit the clap.
- 5 - 8 Repeat action of meas 1-4.

II. Elbow Turns

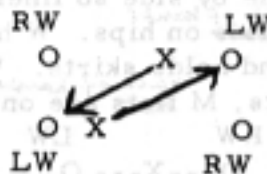
- 1 - 2 Beg with hop on L and stepping on R, M and R W hook R elbows and with 8 skips make 2 CW turns. M free arm is raised out to side with elbow bent, palm fwd, R W free hand holds skirt. At same time, L W, holding skirts, make 2 small CCW circles in place (1 circle on 4 skips.)
Note: Any time a W is free during Fig II she turns in a small circle in place, holding skirts. L W always turns CCW when alone.

BRANLE a' SIX (CONT.)

Measures	Pattern
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3	R W turns CW. Any time M has elbow linked with W, his free arm is raised as described in meas 1-2 (Fig II). M hook L elbows with L W and make 1 CCW turn with 4 skips. R W make 1 CW turn alone. Hand pos as in meas 1-2 (Fig II).
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4	With 4 skips M cross set to take R elbows with Opp L W. As M faces other set, this will be the W to his R. M pass L shoulders, fists on hips. W turn in place.
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5 - 6	With 8 skips M turn Opp L W twice with R elbows. R W turn alone.
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7 - 8	With L elbows M turn Opp R W once around with 6 skips. L W turn alone. On last 2 skips M take ctr pos in opp set.
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Repeat dance from beg with M dancing in the set that was opp him in Fig I. At end of repeat M will be back with orig ptrs. Continue dance to end of music.

Presented by: Anatol Joukowsky
Notes by: Ruth Ruling

ERRATA:**BRANLE a' SIX**

Fig II, meas 7-8: L W need not change direction after M leaves her but may continue turning CW.

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