

Joc de Leagane

Origin: Joc de Leagane (zhok deh LEH-gah-neh), which means “Dance of the Cradle” was first introduced by Nicolaas Hilferink, which he learned from Theodor Vasilescu. This dance honors the midwife on her birthday. *Rhythm:* 2/4 *Styling:* Mr. Hilferink writes, “If men insist on dancing [Joc de Leagane], they should dance on the outside of the women’s circle.” *Formation:* Circle of W facing diagonally to R, L hand on own L shoulder, R arm extended toward neighbor to the R with R hand grasping neighbor’s L hand.

Measure	Count	INTRODUCTION	Measure	Count	FIG. 3
1–16	—	No action.	1	1	Facing center, step R BKWD, beginning to slowly lower hands toward “W” pos
		FIG. 1	2		Step L BKWD, continuing to slowly lower hands
1	1	Facing to R and moving in LOD, touch R next to L	2	1	Small step R BKWD, leaving L in place and continuing to slowly lower hands
	2	Step R FWD	&		Transfer weight FWD onto L
2	1	Touch L next to R	2	2	Transfer weight BKWD to R, ending with hands in “W” pos
	2	Step L FWD			
3	1	Step R FWD	3–4	—	REPEAT action of FIG. 3, measures 1–2, FWD w/opposite footwork, raising hands high
	2	Step L FWD			
4	1	Step R FWD	5	1	Turning to face R and moving to R in LOD, step R FWD
	&	Step L next to R	2	2	Step L FWD
	2	Step R FWD	&		Step R next to L
5–8	—	Continuing in LOD, REPEAT action of measures 1–4 with opposite footwork	6	1	Continuing in LOD, step L FWD
		FIG. 2	2	2	Step R FWD
1	1	Turning to face center and raising hands above head height, step R SDWD, leaving L in place Lean over R	7	1	Continuing in LOD, step L FWD
			2	2	Step R FWD
2	1	Transfer weight to L	&		Step L next to R
	2	Lean over L	8	1	Continuing in LOD, step R FWD
3	1	Transfer weight to R with slight lean to R	2	2	Step L FWD
	2	Step L next to R, straightening body			
4	1	Step R SDWD			
	2	Lean over R			
5–7	—	REPEAT action of FIG. 2, measures 1–3, with opposite footwork			
8	1	Step L SDWD			
	2	Close R to L w/out weight			

Figure 4 continued on next page...

Joc de Leagane continued

Measure	Count	FIG. 4
1	1	Continuing in LOD, step R
	&	Step L
	2	Step L
	&	Lightly stamp L next to R w/out weight
2	1	Turning to face L in RLOD, step L
	2	Step R FWD
3-4	—	Turning to face L and moving in RLOD, REPEAT action of FIG. 4 measures 1-2, w/opposite footwork
5	1	Turning to face R and moving in LOD, step R FWD, swaying arms slightly away from center
	2	Step L FWD, swaying arms slightly toward center
6-8	—	REPEAT action of FIG. 4, measure 5, three more times, slowly lowering arms to “W” position on final measure.

Turning to face R in LOD and placing hands
in formation pose REPEAT entire dance from
beginning