SCOTTISCH ESPAGNOLE

The **Spanish Schottische** of 1920s Paris

This animated style of fox-trot was introduced during the 1919 French vogue for Spanish dance and music, but soon became a popular style of dancing to faster, jazzier fox-trot music. It is characterized by an up-down movement on each slow step, shorter steps than the American fox-trot, a somewhat faster tempo, a simple step vocabulary, and steps that fit into squared musical phrases, like a schottische, as opposed to crossing over musical phrases like many fox-trot and tango steps.

The 1919 version was very slow and smooth; the following is the livlier mid-twenties style.

Many Parisian dance manuals described the basic motion as down-up instead of up-down. I found that a slight majority (and the most influential) described an up-down motion. – *Richard*

Men's steps are described below. Women dance opposite unless otherwise noted. Note: Parisian salon dances customarily began with the man's right foot, lady's left.

La Marche (The Walk)

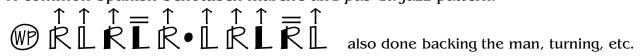


Pas du jazz, pas courus, pas rapides, pas précipités (Jazz Step)



Note: all slow steps below should also be done with this Spanish Schottisch rise-fall movement.

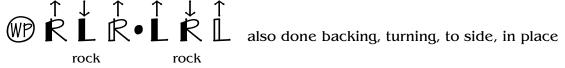
A common Spanish Schottisch marche and pas du jazz pattern:



Polka, Side Shimmy



Pas d'habanera, pas hésités (Habanera Step)



Pas Espagnole, petits pas croisés, glissades (SpanishStep)

(then Habanera steps forward) Repeat to right side. Closing R toe to L heel each time. Last step L is longer than the other steps.

Battus

Repeat. Possibly stamp lightly on the closing step.

A common sequence: follow this with a polka step to the right side. Repeat all opposite.

------ Not as common ------

Zig-zag

BLRL. BRLR

Note: the steps do not cross over as in the Castle Walk zig-zag.

Le Pas de Boston en tournant (Boston Waltz)

Le croisé-accentivé

NOTATION CODES:

