Early Waltzes, 1825-35
Reconstructed from German dance manuals by Richard Powers

**Der Walzer**
Also known as the German Waltz and the Slow Waltz, this is exactly the same as the mid-century Valse à Trois Temps, except that according to most sources (all except Casorti) the man begins forward R, between his partner’s feet, on count 1 as the lady steps L to 2nd position cutting in front of her partner (i.e. beginning with the opposite gender’s steps from the later French/English convention). All steps are done on the toes, traveling (for the man) step-step-close, step-close-close.
Introduction: Walk fwd in LOD 4 slow steps in half-open position, one step per bar, man beg/ R, lady beg/ L. Then on the 5th bar, he begins his waltz step (she doesn’t yet, but rather walks forward with a fifth step) as he folds in front of her taking closed position. They then commence waltzing together on the second half of the bar.
Only one to six couples may dance on the floor at a time (the others waiting their turn in line) and only waltz twice around the hall before joining the end of the line.

**Balancé Walzer**
Man faces LOD and 1) steps R to 2nd pos. 2) closes his L behind to 3rd pos, rising.
3) falls on R in place, all without rotating. Repeat to opposite side, still facing LOD. Lady dances mirror-image. Alternate this with the Walzer (unless a couple is following behind you, in which case you won’t impede their travel with a Balancé).

**Eccosoise Walzer, Ecossaise Walz, Ecossaisen Walzer**
Execute the same steps as the Walzer above, but in 2/4 time in a QQS rhythm, similar to the later Two-Step. Casorti’s 1826 version has the man’s first 3 steps (R-L-R) as step-close-step, like a chassé, instead of Häcker’s step-step-close of the Walzer. Casorti leaps onto the 4th step L; Häcker’s version is smooth.

**Rutscher**
Almost the same steps as the Walzer, but done in 2/4 time in a S-QQ rhythm. On count 2, push the L foot heavily along the ground into 2nd position “as if you couldn’t lift it” but without making a scraping noise.

**Wiener Walz** (Viennese Waltz)
For the Man: 1) Facing LOD, step strongly fwd R, immediately turning CW and swinging the L foot in the air to 2nd pos, toward LOD. 2) Click heels together. 3) Land on R. 4-5-6) Complete the second bar of the Walzer as above, L-R-L. Ladies do the same timing, opposite feet. That is, she steps back L to 2nd pos, throws her R foot toward LOD clicking heels, lands on her L, then completes the first bar of the Walzer above, forward R-L-R.
You may also begin the Viennese Waltz with the 4 slow walking steps, as above. The music for the Viennese Waltz is faster than that of the German Waltz.
**Hops–Walzer** (Wiener’s Ecossaise Walzer)
Exactly the same steps as the Viennese Waltz above, but done in 2/4 time in a S-S-QQS rhythm. Begin with the 4 slow walking steps.

**Rejdouva** (Häcker), **Savante** (Wiener)
The man backs the lady, without rotating, in closed position (his R hand is at her L side instead of around her) with a step similar to a pas de basque, the second step of which is taken on the diagonal. Then do a half-turn and back the man with the same step. One sounce said the man begins R; another said he begins L.

**Rejdouvaczka**
The step is the same as the Rejdouva, but done in 2/4 to a S-QQ timing. Half-turn with the Rutscher step, which is also in S-QQ timing.

**Triolet Walzer, Tyroler Triller**
This is a family of figures done by one man with two ladies, using waltz and mazurka steps. The most common figures involve leading one partner under an arch formed with the second partner, as in Troika, and turning in place with each of the partners, as in a holubiec.

**Other waltzes** described in these circa 1830 German dance manuals include
- **Der Masurische Walzer** (Mazurka Waltz), **Der Zephyr-Walzer** (similar to Thomas Wilson’s Jeté Waltz), **Der Französische Walzer** (French Waltz), **Der Tyroler Landler** (peasant’s Landler), **Der Russische Walzer** (Russian Waltz), **Der Kosakische Walzer** (Cossack’s Waltz), **Ecossaise Dreher** (Turning Ecossaise, simple traveling pivots), **Krakowiaque** (similar to today’s Polish Krakowiak) and **Kalmaika**.

**Sources for these steps**
Louis Casorti, **Der Instructive Tanzmeister für Herren und Damen**... (“The Instructing Dance Master for Gentlemen and Ladies, Containing the Art of Learning the Most Popular Steps, Figures and Dances in a Short Time by Self-Instruction, Containing the Basic Concepts and Brief Introductions to the Waltz, Ecossaise Waltz, Viennese Waltz, Galop, Tempete, Menuet, Cotillon, plus Scottische, French and English Quadrilles and Contradanses”) Almenau, 1826.

C.W. Wiener, **Gründliche Anweisung zu allen gesellschaftlichen Tänzen**... (“Basic Descriptions of All Social Dances -- Containing the Newest and Favorite Steps, Figures, Contradances and Mazurkas, with two Lithographs”), Zwickau, 1829.

Eduard Friedrich David Helmke, **Almanach der neuesten Modetänze fur das Jahr 1832**... (“Almanack of the Newest Fashionable Dances for the Year 1832 -- Dedicated to Friends of the Highest Art of Dancing, with Illustrations and Music”), Merseburg, 1832.

J.G. Häcker, **Der Selbstlehrende Tanzmeister**... (“The Self-Instructing Dance Master -- Basic, Independent and Easy-to-learn Steps Illustrated by more than a Hundred Drawings and Descriptions, or, How to Become a Complete Dancer without the Help of a Teacher, with 41 Lithographed Tables”), Grimma, 1835.