

Brîul pe opt

(Romania)

The name translates as “Brîul (belt dance) in eight.” Brîul or Brîul (plural form) is found throughout Romania in various forms, but mainly in the south. This particular Brîul pe opt is a collection of steps from Muntenia that was learned between 1972 and 1980 from various village and amateur groups and from a very close friend, professor Leonte Socaciu of Bucharest, Romania.

Pronunciation: BREE-oo peh OHPT

Music: Kotansky 1999 Camp Tape

4/4 meter

Formation: Short lines in belt hold (L over R), facing ctr, R ft free.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct 2); repeat cts 1-2 (cts 3-4).
 2-8 Repeat meas 1 to R. During this period of getting into the music, witty “strigaturi” or verses are usually shouted, either in unison or antiphonally, for example:
- Si la brîu, la brîu, la brîu
 Si la secera de grîu
 Cire so lâsu de brîu
 Sa dea ciofa cu rachiu

FIGURE I. WARM UP OR SIDE STEP

- 1 Step on R to R (ct 1); close L to R, no wt (ct 2); step on L to L (ct 3); close R to L, no wt (ct 4).
 2 Repeat Introduction, meas 1 (step-close to R).
 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all).

FIGURE II

- 1 Turning to face diag L of ctr, lift on L and extend R straight and low in front (ct 1); step on R with accent diag L of ctr, lifting L up and behind R (ct &); hold (ct 2); step on L back in place turning to face ctr (ct &); leap on R to R (cts 3, &); step on L across R (ct 4).
 2 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving in LOD, hop on L and lift R knee up and in front of L (ct 1); step on R to R (ct &); step on L across R (ct 2); repeat cts 1, &, 2 (hop-step-step) (cts 3,&,4). Note: This hop-step-step will now be referred to as the “Closing Motif” and will reappear in various forms.
 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all).

FIGURE III

- 1 Turning slightly L of ctr, lift on L and flick R to side (ct 1); close R to L, no wt (ct 2); step on L diag bkwd L (ct 3); step diag bkwd on L to L (ct 3); close R to L, no wt (ct &); step bkwd on L (ct 4); hold (ct &).
 2 Repeat Fig II, meas 2 (Closing Motif), moving diag fwd to orig pos.
 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all).

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FIGURE IV

- 1 Facing ctr, jump onto both ft shldr-width apart in preparation for a click (ct 1); click both heels together in the air (ct &); land on L (ct 2); step on R behind L (ct &); step on L to L (ct 3); step on R in front (ct &); step on L in place (ct 4).
- 2 Hop on L in place, lifting R knee up (ct 1); stamp R to R with wt (ct &); step on L next to R (ct 2); stamp R heel to R (ct &); close L to R (ct 4).
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all).

FIGURE V

- 1 Facing ctr, hop on L and lift R knee up in front (ct 1); step on R across L (accented) (ct &); step bkwd on L (ct 2); step fwd on R (ct &); hold (ct 3); hop on R, bringing L knee up in front (ct &); step on L in place (ct 4). Cue: Hop, step, step, step-hop, step.
- 2-4 Repeat meas 1 three times.
- 5-8 Moving bkwd in “reel” fashion, repeat meas 1-4.

FIGURE VI

- 1 Hop on L, lifting R knee (ct 1); stamp R slightly in front (12 noon) (ct &); step on L in place (ct 2); stamp R slightly R of where you last stamped (1 p.m.) (ct &); step on L in place (ct 3); stamp R still further R and to side (2 a.m., like an arch) (ct &); step on L in place (accent) (ct 4).
- 2 Hop on L in place, lifting R knee (ct 1); stamp R in front (ct &); step on L in place (ct 2); hop on L in place, lifting R knee (ct 3); stamp R slightly R of L, with wt (ct &); step on L in place (ct 4).
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all).

FIGURE VIIa

- 1 Flick or kick L across R (ct 1); step on R across L (ct &); step back on L in place (ct 2); step on R to R (ct &); step on L across R (ct 3); step back on R in place (ct &); step on L to L (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat Fig II, meas 2 (Closing Motif) in place, adding the flick of R on ct 1, &.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

FIGURE VIIb. DOUBLE CROSSING

- 1 Repeat Fig VIIa, meas 1, adding: step on R across L on ct 4.
- 2 Step back on L in place (ct 1); step on R to R (ct &); step on L across R (ct 2); step back on R in place (ct &); step on L to L (ct 3); step on R across L (ct &); step back on L in place (ct 4); step on R to R (ct &).
- 3 Step on L across R (ct 1); step back on R in place (ct &); step on L to L (ct 2); step on R across L (ct &); step back on L in place (ct 3); step on R to R (ct &); close L to R (accented, no wt) (ct 4).
- 4 Repeat Fig VIIa, meas 2 (Closing Motif with flick).
- 5-11 Repeat Fig VIIa and Fig VIIb meas 1-3.
- 12 In “Can Can” facing, with the R knee bent, kick the R leg 4 times (cts 1,2,3,4), starting to the L of the L leg and moving slightly R with each additional kick.

FINALE

- 1-7 Repeat Fig V, meas 1-7.
- 8 Leap onto both heels with heels together and toes turned out (ct 1); fall onto both ft, knees slightly bent (ct 2); repeat Fig VIIb, meas 12, cts 1, 2 (cts 3,4).

Presented by Stephen Kotansky