

CHERKASSIYA

ISRAELI

(Tcherkessia)

Pronounced: Chair-ka-SEE-yah

This dance apparently was brought to Israel by Russian immigrants. It has several parts, but it is easy to do and is most enjoyable. Learned from Fred Berk.

Records: RCA Victor EPA4140; Educ. Dance Record. FD-3; Israel Music Foundation 116B; Tikva T106.

Steps: Grapevine, step-hop, swivel, kick, buzz-step.

Formation: No partners, closed single circle, all facing center, hands joined. Leader can call the sequence as he desires, or substitute improvised steps or hand movements.

Timing and Rhythm: Four beats per grapevine step (8-beat introduction on RCA EPA4140).

PATTERN:

CHORUS: Moving to the left (CW), do 4 grapevine steps, beginning R (step R across L with a stamp, step L to left, step R behind L, step L to left).

PART I: Cherkassiya. Moving right (CCW), step to the right with R. Step L behind R and bend both knees.

Repeat this for a total of 8 times.

CHORUS: Repeat Chorus.

PART II: Horse Trot. 8 step-hops to the right (CCW) beginning on R.

CHORUS: Repeat Chorus.

PART III: Swivels. Keep both feet together, move toes to the right and then heels to the right. This is done continuously 8 times.

CHORUS: Repeat Chorus.

PART IV: Forward Scissors. In place, kick right foot forward, then left foot. Do this 8 times.

CHORUS: Repeat Chorus.

PART V: Backward Scissors. Repeat Part IV, kicking backward.

CHORUS: Repeat Chorus.

PART VI: Choo-Choo Train. Moving right, do 8 buzz-steps, shuffling the feet, keeping R in lead.

RHYTHMIC LEARNING CUES:

CHORUS: (To CW) R L R L R L R L
Cross, side, behind, side; cross, side, behind, side.

 R L R L R L R L
Cross, side, behind, side; cross, side, behind, side.

SEQUENCE: Chorus. Cherkassiya. Chorus. Horse trot. Chorus. Swivels.
 Chorus. Forward Scissors. Chorus. Backward Scissors. Chorus.
 Choo-Choo Train.