

Dana

(Romania, Muntenia)

In the Romanian folk repertoire, we find many modern dances with Eastern inspiration and influence. These dances are called Manele. Among them Dana, one of the most popular, is performed by gypsies who live near the capital city of Bucharest or in other major cities in southern Romania. Those gypsies came from Turkey, as is clear from the music and steps to this dance. The music is so powerful and stirring, it is impossible to listen to it without dancing.

Pronunciation: DAH-nah

Music:

Formation:

Mixed open circle, hands free.

2/4 meter

Style:

Gypsy style; exuberant snapping fingers, ululating, shaking shoulders Ladies more feminine, Eastern movements with hands, shaking necklaces.

Meas	Pattern
8 meas	INTRODUCTION (Hands face arms down, bent from elbows parallel to ground (L-pos), ft together bouncing on heels
	FIGURE I
	Facing ctr, moving to the R (LOD).
1	Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2)
2-6	Repeat meas 1 five more times (6 total).
7	Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R in place (ct &); step on L next to R (ct 2).
8	Step on R across in front of L (ct 1); step on L in place (ct k); step on R next to L (ct 2).
9-10	Repeat meas 1 twice
11-12	.. Repeat meas 7-8.

	FIGURE II
	Hands free, arms higher than shldr, U-pos.
1	Large step on R to R, body facing diag R, raising arms (ct 1); large step on L across in front of R (ct 2).
2	Large step on R to R (ct 1); touch ball of L ft, body facing ctr (ct 2).
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction
5-8	Repeat meas 1-4.

FIGURE III

- 1 Large step on R to R, body facing diag R (ct 1); large step on L across in front of R (ct 2).
- 2 Large step on R to R (ct 1); Raise L leg, knee bent 100° in front.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

FIGURE IV

Hands free in U-pos.

- 1-2 Full turn to R (CW), moving LOD with 3 steps starting with R (cts 1,2,1); raise L leg, bent kncc 100° in front, facing ctr.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, on the last ct touch ball of R ft near L,

FIGURE V

Hands free in W-pos, almost shldr level W's hands doing Eastern movement (Turning wrists).

- 1 Facing diag to L, touch ball of R ft, crossing in front of L (ct 1); touch ball of R ft behind (ct 2).
- 2 Touch ball of R ft, crossing in front of L (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct 2).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, on last ct touch ball of R ft.

FIGURE I

- 1-16 Repeat Fig I, replacing Introduction with 4 additional meas of Fig I.

TRANSITION

- 1-2 Bounce on both heels 4 times
- 3-4 Move bkwd with 4 steps, starting with R and raising hands gradually above shldr (U-pos).

FIGURE VI

Wt on L, forearms "windshield wiper" movement

- 1 Stamp R in front and diag to L, arms moving to R (ct 1); stamp R in front and diag to R, arms moving to L (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Step on R across in front of L, arms moving to R (ct 1); step bkwd on L, arms moving to L (ct 2).
- 4 Step on R to R, arms moving to R (ct 1); step fwd on L, arms moving to L (ct 2).
- 5-20 Repeat meas 1-4 four times (5 total).

FIGURE I (finale)

- 1-16 Repeat Fig I

- 17 Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R in place (ct &); step on L next to R (ct 2).
- 18 Stamp R (ct 1); stamp R (ct &).

.
Sequence:

Fig I (24 ct), Fig II, Fig III, Fig IV, Fig V, Fig I (32 ct), Transition, Fig II, Fig III, Fig IV, Fig V, Fig I (32 ct), Transition, Fig VI, Fig 11, Fig III, Fig IV, Fig I (finale)

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FOLK DANCE CAMP – 2004