

FETELE DIN CRIHALMA
(Romania)

Fetele din Crihalma comes from the south of Ardeal, Crihalma village, Brasov zone. It was originally a couple dance, now a girl's dance. Alexandru David learned the dance from Ion Petcu, former soloist of the Romanian Rhapsody Ensemble, now chairman of folk dance teaching at the Popular School of Arts in Bucharest.

Pronunciation: FEH-teh-lay deen cree-HAHL-mah

Record: Gypsy Camp Vol. IV Side B/3 "Crihalma". 2/4 meter

Formation: Circle, or line, of W (M may also dance) facing LOD. Arms are free. During Fig I and III arms are low, swinging across body. During Fig II, IV, V, VI arms are held out to sides and move freely.

MeasPattern

1-4 INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. TRAVEL FACING LOD; ARMS DOWN, SWING ACROSS BODY.

1 Step fwd on L (ct 1): click-close R to L twisting on L (ct 2); step R (ct &).

2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.

4 Click-close L to R twisting on R (ct 1); step L (ct &); click-close R to L twisting on L (ct 2); step R (ct &).

5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three times, but replace final click-close step with jump on both ft facing ctr (ct 2).

II. GRAPEVINE; HEEL TOUCHES AND JUMPS; ARMS MOVE FREELY

1 Step R behind L (ct 1); step L to L side (ct &); step R across in front of L (ct 2); step L to L side (ct &).

2 Hop on L throughout meas. Touch R heel out to R side (ct 1); touch R toe in same place, knee turned in (ct &); touch R heel again (ct 2); step R beside L (ct &).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.

5 Step R behind L (ct 1); jump to stride pos (ct &);

jump with ft together (ct 2); step R to R side (ct &).

6 Step L behind R (ct 1); jump to stride pos (ct &);

jump with ft together (ct 2); jump to stride pos (ct &).

7 Jump-click* (ct 1); land in stride pos (ct &); jump-click (ct 2); land on L (ct &).

8 Stamp R ft fwd (ct 1); step R,L in place (cts 2,&).

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 but hold (ct 2).

*Jump-click means to jump up in air and click ft together on one ct.

III. INTO CENTER; ARMS DOWN, SWING ACROSS BODY.

1 Moving twd ctr, leap onto L, R leg bent behind, knee out to R (ct 1); twist body to L, pivoting on ball of L ft (ct 2); twist body to ctr and extend R ft fwd, knee straight (ct &).

2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.

3-6 Repeat meas 1-2 twice, but omit last extention and jump with ft together on last ct &.

FETELE DIN CRIHALMA

- 7 Hold (ct 1); step bkwd R,L,R (cts &,2,&)
 8 Jump to stride pos (ct 1); jump-click (ct &); land with ft together (ct 2); small jump in place (ct ah); fall on R (ct &).
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

IV. BRUSH STEPS; ARMS MOVE FREELY

- 1 Step on L, turning to face L of ctr (ct 1); brush R ft bkwd alongside L (ct &); step on R (ct 2); step on L behind R (ct &).
 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk, facing R of ctr on ct 1.
 3-6 Repeat meas 1-2 twice, but jump with ft together on last ct &.
 7-8 Repeat Fig III; meas 7-8.
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8, but land in stride pos facing LOD (ct 2); hold (ct &).

V. JUMPS; ARMS MOVE FREELY

- 1 Jump-click, turning to L of ctr (ct 1); land on L, bringing R around in front (ct &); step on R heel in front of L (ct 2); jump to stride pos (ct &).
 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk but land with ft together facing LOD.
 3-4 In S Q S Q S rhythm, jump to face L of ctr, then a little to R on each succeeding jump. On the last jump land in stride pos facing LOD.
 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three times, but on last jump, land on L facing ctr.

VI. GRAPEVINE; ARMS MOVE FREELY

- 1 Travelling sdwd L, step on R heel in front of L (ct 1); step L to L (ct &); step R behind L (ct 2); step L to L (ct &).
 2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.
 4 Slight hop on L and touch R in front (ct 1); jump to stride pos (ct &); jump with ft together (ct 2); fall on R (ct &).
 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction (travel sdwd R).
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

After the break in music dance, repeats from Fig I with no introductory music.

Presented by Mihai David

Notes revised by Alana Hunter and Virginia Wilder