

HASAPIKO (Greek)

Presented by Dave Rosenberg (As learned from Greek-Americans in Washington, D. C. and Boston, Mass.)

Record: Just as for the Tsamiko, there are many Hasapiko tunes. A particularly lively record is Parnassus P 210

Formation: Broken circle; arms outstretched to sides with hands on shoulders of neighbors. The leader maneuvers the line wherever he chooses to go on the dance floor.

BASIC STEP:

Step to right with right foot; step on left crossed in front of right.

Step to right with right foot; swing left foot in front of right leg (the swing is more of a quick little thrust, or kick -- not a graceful swing).

Step on left foot in place; swing right foot in front of left leg.

Cue Words: step, cross, step, swing, step, swing.

There are many variations in the Hasapiko, some of which are described here. The leader changes the step as he likes, and the line must follow the leader.

"One-two-three" Step:

(Same as the basic step, but instead of doing the step swing, take three little steps in place (as in a polka).

Step to right on right foot; step on left cross in front. Then step right, left, right, hold; step left, right, left, hold.

Cue words: step, cross, "one-two-three", "one-two-three".

Skipping Step:

(Same as basic step, except you take skipping steps instead of walking steps.)

Begin with a hop on the left foot (following the last step of the previous measure.), come down with a step on right foot; hop on right foot and come down with step on left foot crossed in front of right; hop on left and come down with step on right foot; swing left foot in front of right; step on left foot in place, swing right foot in front of left.

Cue words: hop down, hop down, hop step--swing, step, swing.

Hasapiko (cont.)

Knee twist step:

With weight on balls of feet, twist knees to left, swivel on toes turning heels to right; then with weight still on toes, twist knees to right, swivel on toes and turn heels to left. Keep moving to the right; keep knees and feet together. The step should be done lightly, bending and straightening knees, weight always on balls of feet and toes.

Sliding Step:

Slide to right, with lively sliding steps.

With this step you can wind the line up into a tight spiral and then unwind (sometimes it is easier if you remove hands from shoulders and hold hands for the sliding step).