

HALAY #3 (CONTEMPORARY MEN'S)

There are (or were) hundreds of different HALAYS/KOTCHARIS/GOVANDS, many going back to different regions of Eastern or Western Armenia. Aside from these traditional dances, there are many modern versions, with many Armenian-American communities having their own particular favorite dance and style distinct to that community. Originally a men's dance adopted from Kurdish mountain tribes, there are still many versions, both traditional and modern, done by men only. At a major picnic or gathering it is possible to see a dozen different HALAYS being done simultaneously. This modern version HALAY done by men in Boston has many strenuous steps, only a few of which are noted here. This version is never done by women.

Source: Armenian community of Boston, Ma.

Music: Dance Armenian Side B-band #2, The Armenian Side B-
"zurna halay", or any good 2/4 or 4/4 'Halay' music.

Style: Done by men only, the movements are heavy and strong, with a deep powerful flex of the knees.

Formation: Short lines in back-basket hold or arms across the back and shoulders of neighbor. Dancers often shout and leader (man on right end) waves handkerchief.

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Ct.</u>	<u>Movement</u>
1-8	1-16	<u>PART A...BASIC</u> Same as in HALAY #1 (Boston Halay)
1-4	1-8	<u>PART B...ROCK</u> Fall forward onto R as body rocks forward and L swings up in back (ct 1). Flex/hop on R (ct 2). Step back onto L as body straightens (ct 3). Lift R high in front (ct 4). Repeat (cts 5-8).
5-8	9-16	Same as in HALAY #1 (Boston Halay), (cts 9-16).
1-4	1-8	<u>PART C...SQUAT</u> Squat on both (ct 1). Rise on right leg as kick left leg forward (ct 2). Squat on both (ct 3). Rise on left as kick right forward (ct 4). Repeat squats (cts 5-8).
5-8	9-16	Same as HALAY #1 (Boston Halay), (cts 9-16).
1	1,2	<u>PART D... TRAVELING SQUATS</u> Squat on both (ct 1). Rise on <u>left</u> leg as kick right leg forward, while hopping on left to move to right side (ct 2).
2-8	3-16	Repeat seven more times (cts 3-16). <u>Note:</u> Men often yell "hey" while rising from squats in PART C and PART D.