

HORA MARE MOLDOVENEASCA
(Moldavia, Romania)

- Translation: The big Moldavian hora (dance).
- Pronunciation: HAW-rah MAH-rey mole-doh-veh-neh-AHS-kuh
- Record: "Roemeense Volksdansen Deel 3," Nevofoon 15012, side 2, band 7. 4/4 meter (slow).
- Formation: Closed circle of cpls, W on M L side, hands joined in "W" pos, all facing slightly R of ctr.

MeasPattern

NO INTRODUCTION.

PART I. BIG CIRCLE FIGURE.

- 1 Moving diag fwd R into the circle, touch ball of L ft slightly fwd, L knee bent slightly (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct 2); touch ball of R ft slightly fwd, R knee bent slightly (ct 3); step on R fwd and across in front of L with plie, turning to face L of ctr (ct 4).
- 2 Walk out from ctr and diag bkwd to the R with four steps starting on L ft (cts 1,2,3,4). On the last step turn to face R of ctr.
- 3-8 Repeat action of meas 1-2 three times. On the very last ct, all face ctr and W touch R (no wt) beside L, instead of stepping on R.
The floor pattern of meas 1-2 is a wedge-shaped figure.

PART II. COUPLE FIGURE.

- 1 M release R handhold (retain hold with ptr). M dancing more or less in place, step slightly bkwd with L,R,L (cts 1,&2) and slightly fwd with R,L,R (cts 3,&4) while leading W fwd twd ctr and around in wide CW arc to face him. W step twd ctr and turn slowly 180° to the R to face ptr with two two-steps beg. on R ft (cts 1,&2, 3,&4).
- 2 Assuming closed social dance pos and moving twd ctr of circle, W with backs to ctr and going bkwd, dance four smooth gliding steps beg. M L, W R (cts 1,2,3,4) while extended arms move up, down, up, down in rhythm and bodies sway sdwd (bending slightly from waist) away from the ft that is stepping; i.e., if stepping onto L, sway to the R.
- 3 Turning 1/4 CW so that M L side and W R side are twd ctr and turning slightly to face ctr but retaining handhold, M step fwd on L, W step fwd on R in plie twd ctr as the extended arms and the torsos are tilted down and twd ctr (ct 1). Coming upright, dance three steps approximately in place beg. on M R, W L while turning as a cpl 180° CCW (cts 2,3,4).

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HORA MARE MOLDOVENEASCA (continued)

- 4 In semi-closed dance pos (same as closed pos except turn slightly to face out), move fwd out of circle in this meas. M take six steps fwd always leading with L heel and closing R to L (cts 1,&2,&3,&); then step slightly fwd on L and hold (ct 4). W take eight steps fwd always leading with R heel and closing L to R (cts 1,&2,&3,&4,&).
- 5-6 Change to open pos holding inside hands (M R, W L hand). All dance four two-steps beg. R (cts 1,&2; 3,&4; 1,&2; 3,&4) while M leads W in a fairly wide 3/4 circle CCW around him and then twd ctr, ending with W back to ctr, facing ptr. M dances more or less in place while making approximately a 1/2 turn CW under raised joined hands to end facing ctr, thus: M dances the first two-step in place (facing out), the second slightly diag fwd L, the third slightly to his R and turning 1/2 CW, and the fourth completing CW turn and fwd into ctr twd ptr. Assume shldr-shldr blade pos.
- 7 Both starting on R ft and turning in place CCW as a cpl, dance seven steps sdwd to the R, always stepping sdwd on R and closing L to R (cts 1,&2,&3,&4).
- 8 Both starting on L ft and turning in place CW as a cpl, dance eight steps sdwd to the L, always stepping sdwd on L and closing R to L (cts 1,&2,&3,&4,&). On the last two steps, W turn about 1/2 to own R to end on R side of orig ptr. All end facing ctr, with wt on R. Rejoin hands in big circle.

Repeat entire dance from beg. with new ptr.