

KEREMEJLI

A "Turkish" (or "oriental") womens' dance from southern Serbia, former Yugoslavia. (Slavic people in the Balkans tend to refer to several non-Slavic peoples and cultures – Turkish, Gypsy, Shiptar and Muslims generally – rather loosely as "Turkish" or "oriental," that is, "from the East," that "East" again referring to the Near and Middle East, not the Far East, as the word "oriental" is usually used in English.) The dance is taught by Dragan Paunovic, well-known dance teacher from Serbia.

Formation: open circle

Handhold: high handhold

Dance description:

counts steps

Figure 1

- 1, 2, 3, 4, Moving to the right: Step on right foot to right (1), step on left foot crossed behind right (2), step on right foot to right (3), keeping left foot near floor, bring it slowly around in front of right in a large arc (4).
- 5, 6, 7, 8 Dip left foot and hip twice (5, 6), step on left (7), step on right foot (8).
- 9, 10, 11, 12 Step on left foot (9), turning to face center, bring right foot slowly around, keeping foot near floor until right foot points in toward the center (10), dip right foot and hip (11), step forward on right foot (12), step back on left foot leaving right foot lifted slightly off the floor, pointing in toward the center (13).
- 14, 15, 16 Dip right foot and hip 3 times (14, 15, 16).
- Repeat this figure three times. (4 times in all.)

Figure 2

- 1, 2, 3, 4 Bringing right hip slightly in toward center, step on right foot crossed in front of left (1), step back on left foot in place (2), step on right foot next to left (3), touch ball of left foot on floor in front of you, lift and lower left hip (4).
- 5, 6, 7, 8 Repeat 1,2,3,4 with opposite footwork (5, 6, 7, 8).
- 9, 10, 11, 12 Repeat 1,2,3,4 (9, 10, 11, 12).
- 13, 14, 15, 16 Repeat 1,2,3,4 with opposite footwork (13, 14, 15, 16).
- 17, 18, 19, 20 Turning to the right, jump over on to right foot, bringing left foot up diagonally behind you (17) bring left foot slowly around to front (18), flex right knee twice (19, 20).
- 21, 22 Moving to the right: Cross and step on left foot in front of right, bringing hands to the left (21) step on ball of right foot to right, bringing hands to the right (22).
- 23, 24 Repeat 21,22.
- 25, 26 Cross and step on left in front of right, bringing hands to the left (25), turning to the left, bring right foot slowly around to the front (26).
- 27 – 36 Repeat 21-26 with opposite footwork (27 –36).
- 37 –72 Repeat 1-36 with opposite footwork.