

KOPAČKA
Macedonia

Kopačka symbolizes how the men work on the farm. It is the most popular dance from eastern Macedonia and is done in "village" style in steps, style and techniques. It was originally a dance for men only and widely used by exhibition groups. The dance is from the Delčevo-Berovo district. It was originally taught by Atanas Kolarovski when Tanec, the Macedonian State Folk Ensemble, toured the United States in 1956.

RECORD: Jugoton EPY 3009 (recorded by Tanec Orchestra), AK-008

FORMATION: Lines of Men. Belt hold - L arm over R. Last dancer may tuck thumb in own belt or hold hand behind back. Leader carries handkerchief in R hand. Stand proud and erect. All steps are done precisely.

METER: 2/4 (10 meas phrase) PATTERN

Meas.

FIG. I: (Danced to "Dimna Juda Mamo" music)

- 1 Facing slightly R, walk R,L.) 4 walks
 - 2 Repeat meas 1.
 - 3 Face ctr, step R in place (ct 1); lift L fwd (ct 2).) 3 step
 - 4-5 Repeat meas 3, alternating ftwk.) lifts
 - 6 Facing slightly L, walk L,R.) grapevine
 - 7 Walk L (ct 1); step R behind L, body faces ctr.)
 - 8 Step L in place (ct 1); lift R fwd (ct 2).) 2 step lifts
 - 9 Repeat meas 8, with opp ftwk.
 - 10 Step L fwd twd ctr (ct 1); lift R close in front of L ankle (ct 2).
- Repeat to end of slow music

FIG. II: (Fast "Kopačka" step danced to "Derviško Viško Mome")

- 1 Hop on L (ct 1); step R to R (ct &); step L next to R (ct 2).
 - 2 Repeat meas 1.
 - 3 Step R in place, extend L fwd low to floor (ct 1); repeat ct 1 alternating ftwk (cts &, 2). (3 scissors R,L,R)
 - 4-5 Repeat meas 3, twice more alternating ftwk (9 scissors in all)
 - 6-7 Repeat meas 1-2 to L, same ftwk.
 - 8-10 Repeat meas 3-5 (scissors) moving to L, then fwd, making a semi-circle moving twd R.
- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2 (hop-step-step) moving back to orig pos.
3-10 Repeat meas 3-10, continuing to move in a semi-circle until leader calls change.

FIG. III:

- 1-4 Repeat meas 1-4, Fig. I (4 walks, 2 step-lifts)
 - 5 Small leap onto R, extend L out sharply to L side (ct 1); swing L across R and bounce on R (ct 2).
 - 6-7 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig. I (4 walks)
 - 8 Face ctr, small leap on L in place (ct 1); lift R fwd (ct 2).
 - 9 Step R,L in place (cts 1,&); step R fwd (ct 2).
 - 10 Hop on R (ct 1); swing L out to L and around (ct &); step L across R (ct 2).
- 1-10 Repeat meas 1-10.

FIG. IV:

- 1 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig. I (4 walks).
- 3-4 Jump on both ft to face ctr on 1st ct and hold.
- 5 Leap onto L in place and swing L out sharply to L (ct 1); swing L across R (ct 2).
- 6 Touch L toe to L, heel turned out (ct 1); raise L behind R calf, with slightly lift on R (ct 2).
- 7 Step L bkwd with twist (ct 1); step R bkwd with twist (ct 2).
- 8 Step L in place (ct 1); lift R fwd (ct 2).
- 9 Moving slightly fwd step R,L,R (cts 1,&,2).
- 10 Hop on R in place (ct 1), swing L across R (ct &), step L across R in LOD and face slightly R (ct 2).

1-10 Repeat meas 1-10.

FIG. V:

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig. I (4 walks)
- 3 Jump on both ft to face ctr. (eliminate hold)
- 4-8 Repeat meas 5-9, Fig. IV.
- 9 Bicycle (hop on R, circle L fwd, up bkwd and down.
- 10 Repeat bicycle, ending with step L.

1-10 Repeat meas 1-10.

These descriptions are meant as refresher notes only, for use after having learned the dance from a qualified instructor. Proper styling must be learned in person as it cannot be adequately described in writing.

Presented by Atanas Kolarovski
January 9-10, 1982

Dance notes by R & S Committee