

Presented by Atanas Kolarovski

ŠTIPSKO ORO
Macedonia

This dance comes from the region of Štip, in eastern Macedonia. It is still danced around this area at every opportunity. Part of its popularity comes from the fact that the musicians in the area move from village to village and both the music and dances develop as they spread from village to village. The musicians often teach dances, although nobody teaches verbally--just by demonstration. When the musicians dance, the village dancers learn by following.

RECORD: Songs and Dances of Jugoslavia, AK-005 (LP), Side B, Band 6.

FORMATION: Mixed lines. ~~Bl~~et hold preferred (L over R), W can use front basket hold.

STYLE: When moving to R or L, knees are very flexible. When dancing in place, use more moderate knee action.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: NoneFIG. I: (7 meas. phrase)

- 1 Facing ctr, step R (ct 1), step L next to R (ct 2).
- 2 Step on R (ct 1), lift L slightly (ct 2).
- 3 Step L across R (ct 1), step on R (ct 2).
- 4 Step on L (ct 1), lift R slightly (ct 2).
- 5 Bend L knee and step R to R with slight lift (ct 1), hold (ct 2).
- 6 Step L to L with slight dip (ct 1), step R next to L with slight lift (ct 2).
- 7 Step L with flexed knee (ct 1), slight lift on L, raising R knee to side, in preparation to repeat pattern (ct 2).
- 8-28 Repeat meas 1-7, 3 more times (4 in all).

FIG. II: (8 meas. phrase)

- 1 Facing ctr, step R to R (ct 1), step L next to R (ct 2).
- 2 Step R (ct 1), step L next to R (ct 2).
- 3 Step R (ct 1), lift L fwd (ct 2).
- 4 Step L (ct 1), lift R fwd (ct 2).
- 5 Step R to R (ct 1), step L next to R (ct 2).
- 6 Step R (ct 1), lift L with R extended to side (ct 2).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6, with opp ftwk and direction.

FIG. III: (8 meas. phrase)

- Following ft is closed to arch of leading ft throughout.
- 1 Step R to R (ct 1), close L to R (ct 2).
 - 2 Step R (ct 1), close L to R (ct 2).
 - 3 Step R (ct 1), lift L fwd (ct 2).
 - 4 Repeat meas 3, with opp ftwk.
 - 5 Step R (ct 1), hold - lift (ct 2).
 - 6 Rock L,R.
 - 7 Step L (ct 1), step R across L (ct 2).
 - 8 Step L (ct 1), slight lift on L, with R ft wlightly fwd in preparation to repeat pattern.

Continued...

- FIG. IV: (8 meas. phrase)
1-4 Repeat Fig. III, meas 1-4, with L closing to arch or R.
5 Step R (ct 1), lift L (ct 2).
6 Step L (ct 1), step R behind L (ct 2).
7 Step L to L (ct 1), step R across L (ct 2).
8 Step back on L (ct 1), lift on L with R slightly to side (ct 2).

- FIG. V: (8 meas. phrase)
Done with bent knees, ft flat and very close to floor, giving a skipping effect.
1 Hop on L (ct 1), step R (ct &), close L to R (ct 2).
2 Repeat meas 1.
3 Hop on L and thrust R fwd (ct 1), step R (ct 2).
4 Lift on R and kick L to side, heel out (ct 1), click L to R (ct 2).
5 Hop on R, lifting L and swinging in a small circle to L (ct 1), step L slightly to L (ct 2).
6 Step R,L,R (scissors) in place (cts 1,&,2).
7 Hop on R, swing L in small circle to L (ct 1), step L slightly to L (ct 2).
8 Lift on L, swing R to side, (ct 1), click R to L (ct 2).

Figures change by call, indicated by leader. When this dance was taught previously Fig. IV was not taught. The patterns were taught as follows:

No Intro:
Fig. I - Do 4 times
" II - 2 "
" I - 4 "
" III - 6 "
" V - 8 "
" I - 4 "
" V - 2 "

This description is meant as refresher notes only, for use after learning the dance from a qualified teacher. Proper styling must be learned in person as it cannot be adequately described in writing.