

ALAGÖZ

ALAGÖZ is one of the classics of Azerbaijani-Turkish music. As most Azerbaijani-Turkish dances are done in free-style, some different step variations can be seen adapted to this music by different Azeri communities. However, all resemble one another very much. The order in which these authentic Azeri steps are done in here continues the Azeri dance style of the family and community in which Ercument was brought up. ALAGÖZ, in Azerbaijani-Turkish as well as Turkish, means "hazel eyes." This dance was first introduced in Amsterdam, Holland, in January 1987.

Meter: 3/4

Formation: Circle, facing LOD and diagonal R.

Pronunciation: Ah-luh-guz

Measures	Pattern
	<u>Figure 1</u>
1	Facing diagonal R, holding little fingers, pushing arms slightly forward, looking down to R, step on ball of R in LOD (ct. 1) step L in LOD (ct. 2); step R in LOD, lifting L behind, pushing arms back (ct. 3).
2	Repeat measures 1 with opposite footwork.
3-4	Repeat measures 1 and 2.
	<u>Figure 2</u>
5	Lifting arms up in a "W" position, bending them to the R, looking down to the L, moving in OLOD, facing diagonal R, a small step behind on ball of R (ct. 1); step on ball of L beside R (ct. 2); a small step back on ball of R, bringing L toe forward to feel the ground (ct. 3).
6	Repeat measure 5 with opposite footwork.
7-8	Repeat measures 5 and 6.
9-16	Repeat measures 1-8.
	<u>Figure 3</u>
17	Without holding little fingers, facing center, comfortably extending R arm to the R with Azerbaijani Women's Hand Position (AWHP: all fingers lifted, middle finger being below the others, with palm facing down), bending L arm to have L hand in front at waist level, assuming AWHP (both palms facing down), take a small step R in diagonal R and pointing fingers upward, without lifting the ball of L (ct. 1 and 2); step up on ball of L, slightly behind R, pointing down with fingers (ct. 3).
18	Repeat measure 17.
19	R arm still extended to R, L arm still bent with hand in front of body, turn palms up and point fingers to the R, away from the body, take a small step R in diagonal R, without lifting the ball of L, in LOD slightly behind R, pulling fingers back slightly towards the body (ct. 3).
20	Repeat measure 19.
21-24	Repeat measures 17-20.
25-31	Repeat measures 17-23.
32	Repeat cts. 1 and 2 of measure 17 (ct. 1, 2); step up on ball of L, lift R foot behind sharply, lifting R arm, elbow being at shoulder level, forearm tilted slightly towards the center; R palm

ALAGÖZ (cont.)

facing face, extending L arm comfortably on L, palm facing down; both hands assuming AWHP (ct. 3).

	<u>Figure 4</u>
33	Turning CW in place, looking up to R palm, step on ball of R to turn to face LOD (ct. 1); still turning CW in place, step up on ball of L to face OLOD (ct. 2, 3)
34	Step R, still turning CW, lift L behind (ct. 1, 2, 3)
35	Repeat measure 33 with opposite footwork to turn CW to face OLOD.
36	Step and pivot sharply CW on L, lifting R behind (ct. 1, 2) R foot, still held behind, continue to pivot on L to face center with lower body and diagonal R with the upper, lift L arm to point at center, palm facing down, hand assuming AWHP, R hand also assuming AWHP, faced down, at waist level, being 180 degrees away from L arm (ct. 3).
	<u>Figure 5</u>
37	Step forward toward the center on ball of R (ct. 1); step on ball of L beside R (ct. 2, 3)
38	Step on ball of R, still going forward (ct. 1); remaining on ball of R, lift L behind (ct. 2, 3).
39	Step back on ball of L, away from center (ct. 1); step R beside L (ct. 2, 3)
40	Step back on ball of L (ct. 1); remaining on L, lift R behind (ct. 2, 3)
41-48	Repeat measures 33-40.

Repeat entire dance 2 more times.

	<u>FOR THE THIRD REPEAT:</u>
1-12	Repeat measures 1-12
13-16	Facing diagonal R, moving in OLOD, looking down to the L, step with alternating L and R, on the balls of the feet, following the music as it slows down, face the center, and bow as the music ends.