

AMMER YA MAALEM
(Arabic)

SOURCE: Ammer Ya Maalem is from Baalbec near Beirut, Lebanon. The dance was learned by Tom Bozigian from Tewfiq Waadi who brought it from Baalbec in 1968. This dance was first introduced by Tom Bozigian at the 1970 San Diego State College Folk Dance Conference.

MUSIC: Express 263-A (45), Parlophone VDL 312, Side 2 (LP)

FORMATION: Short mixed lines with the leader at the R holding a knotted handkerchief. Use an arm-lock hold, with fingers intermeshed, arms bent at elbows and shoulders touching.

STEP: BASIC STEP
Meas 1: Stamp L beside R (no wt) (ct 1), hop on R as L extends fwd (ct 2), hop on R again as L bends to R calf (ct 3), moving twd ctr, step fwd on L (ct 4), step fwd R (ct &).
Meas 2: Continue fwd, step L (ct 1), hop on L as R extends fwd (ct 2), step on R in front (ct &), step L behind R as R extends fwd (ct 3), leap on R to R as L comes up to R calf (ct 4).

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

Meas.

1-18 INTRODUCTION

FIG. I
1 Facing ctr, moving LOD, dip on L over R (ct 1), straightening, step R to R (ct 2), repeat cts 1-2 (cts 3-4).
2 Repeat cts 1-2, only extend L diag LOD as body bends slightly bwd (ct 3), place L heel diag RLOD (ct 4).
3-8 Repeat cts 1-2.

1-8 Dance 8 meas of BASIC STEP.

FIG. II
1 Facing ctr, dip fwd on L (ct 1), leap bwd on R as L extends fwd (ct 2), hop on R (ct &), dip on L again (ct 3), leap bwd on R again as L extends fwd (ct 4).
2 Hop on R as L lifts across in front of R with bent knee (ct 1), Pas de Basque L (cts 2,&,3) (extend R on ct 3), leap on R as L lifts to below R calf (ct 4).
3-8 Repeat meas 1-2.

1-4 Dance 4 meas of BASIC STEP.

FIG. III

- 1 Turning to face slightly RLOD, leap fwd on L, with dip as R begins to arc fwd (ct 1), touch R heel fwd, no wt (ct 2), leap on R as L calf comes up to R calf (ct &), leap bwd on L as R kicks diag RLOD (ct 3), leap on R next to L as L kicks diag LOD (ct 4).
- 2 Pas de Basque to L (with R extending fwd on ct 2) (1-2), leap on R beside L as L lifts to R calf (ct 3), stamp L beside R (ct 4), no wt.
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 1-4 Dance 4 meas of BASIC STEP.

FIG. IV

- 1 Facing and moving ctr, hop slightly fwd on R as L extends fwd, body leaning slightly bwd (ct 1), hop slightly fwd on R again (ct 2), leap on L beside R as R extends straight bwd as body leans fwd slightly (ct 3), hop slightly fwd on L as R extends fwd, body straight (ct 4), hop slightly fwd again on L (ct &).
- 2 Jump slightly fwd on both ft (ct 1), jump slightly bwd on both ft (ct 2), hop on R as L extends fwd (ct 3), leap on L across R (ct &), step on R in place as L extends fwd (ct 4).
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2.

Presented by Tom Bozigian