

# Brâul fetelor din Dragus

(Brasov region, Romania)

Brâul is a spectacular form of dance, traditionally done by men. In the Southern part of Transylvania, close to the Carpathians mountains, we could find Brâul performing exclusively by women. (The word fetelor means young girls ) This particular form of dance is ancient. Originally the dancers were holding each other by the belt (brâul), where the name of the dance comes from. Today, this kind of holding has almost disappeared, it is replaced by grabbing shoulders or by holding hands like for dancing of the Hora.

PRONUNCIATION: BREWL FEH-teh-lohr deen DRUH-goosh

MUSIC: Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian Realm Vol. 1, Band 7

FORMATION: circle, hands on waist

STEPS: Pinten (stirrup) is the Romanian dancer's expression for; close one ft to the other with a sharp click.

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METER: 2/4

PATTERN

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Meas Count

**Figure 1 (hands on waist, facing center, moving sdwd to the right)**

1-2      1      Stamp on R (without wt)  
          &2     Stamp on R (with wt) and moving to the R  
          &3     Step L across in back of R  
          &      Step R to the right (sdwd)  
          4&     Step L across in front of R  
(rhythm : quick-slow-slow-quick-slow)

3-6                      Repeat measures 1-2, two more times

7-8      1&     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)  
          2&     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)  
          3      Step on R  
          &      Step on L  
          4&     Touch with R  
(Rhythm : slow-slow-quick-quick-slow)

9-32                    Execute measures 1-8, three more times

**Figure 2**

1-2      1&     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)  
          2&     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)  
          3      Step on R turning  $\frac{1}{4}$  t. to the right (CW)  
          &      Step on L next to R  
          4&     Step on R turning  $\frac{1}{4}$  t. to the right (CW)  
(Rhythm : slow-slow-quick-quick-slow)

3-6                    Repeat meas. 1-2, opposite ftwk alternating L and R

7-8                    (facing LOD, L shoulder to center)

          1      Hop on R  
          &2     Step on L fwd  
          &3     Step on R fwd  
          &      Step on L fwd  
          4&     Step on R fwd  
(Rhythm : quick-slow-slow-quick-slow)

9-32                    Repeat meas. 1-8, opposite ftwk alternating Hop on L, Hop on R

**Figure 3 (facing center)**

- 1-2     1     Hop on L, facing center, moving slightly to the center, hands in V pos.  
       &2    Step on R fwd  
       &3    Step on L fwd  
       &     Step on R fwd  
       4&    Step on L fwd  
       (Rhythm : quick-slow-slow-quick-slow)
- 3-4     1&    With wt on L leg, extend R leg in diag. 45° to the left, bent R leg next to L  
       2&    Extend R leg in diag. 45° to the right, bent R leg next to L  
       3     Hop on L  
       &     Step on R  
       4&    Step on L  
       (Rhythm : slow-slow-quick-quick-slow)
- 5-6     Repeat meas. 1-4, same ftwk but bkwd
- 7       1     Hop on L  
       &    Step on R  
       2    Step L across in front of R  
       &    Step on R
- 8       1     Step on L to the left  
       &    Step R across in front of L  
       2    Step on L  
       &    Raise R leg with bent knee at 45° in front
- 9-32    Execute measures 1-8, three more times

**Figure 4 (moving sdwd)**

- 1       1     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten) moving to the right  
       2     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)
- 2       1     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)  
       2     Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)
- 3       1     Hop on L  
       &    Step R across in front of L  
       2    Pause  
       &    Step on L to the left
- 4       1     Pause  
       &    Step R across in back of L  
       2    Step on L to the left  
       &    Pause
- 5-16    Execute measures 1-4, three more times

**Figure 5 (facing center, moving to the side)**

- 1       1     Step R Heel across in front of L, moving to left side  
       &    Step on L to the left  
       2    Step R Ball across in back of L  
       &    Step on L to the left  
       (meas. 1 = grapevine with heel)
- 2-3     Repeat measure 1, two more times

- 4      1      Step on R  
        &      Step on L  
        2      Step on R  
        &      Pause  
 5-8            Repeat measures 1-4 with opposite ftwk and direction
- 9      1      Hop on L  
        &      Step on R  
        2      Step L across in front of R  
        &      Step on R
- 10     1      Step on L to the left  
        &      Step R across in front of L  
        2      Step on L  
        &      Step on R to the right
- 11     1      Step L across in front of R  
        &      Step on R  
        2      Step on L to the left  
        &      Step R across in front of L
- 12     1      Step on L  
        &      Step on R to the right  
        2      Step L across in front of R  
        &      Step on R
- 13     1      Step on L to the left  
        &      Step R across in front of L  
        2      Step on L  
        &      Step on R to the right
- 14     1      Step L across in front of R  
        &      Step on R  
        2      Step on L to the left  
        &      Pause
- 15     1      Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)  
        2      Close R to L with a sharp click (pinten)
- 16     1      Step on R  
        &      Step on L  
        2      Step on R  
        &      Pause

Final pattern :

F1 + F2 + F3 + F4 + F5