

DOBRA, NEVESTO

(Bulgaria)

Dobra, nevesto (DOH-brah neh-VEHS-toh), meaning "Dobra, the bride" is a "horovodna" (dancing song) from the area around the town of Petrič in S.W. Bulgaria (Pirin region). Yves Moreau observed this dance variation at a wedding in the town of Sandanski in 1969 and presented it at the 1989 Statewide Institute in Ventura, CA and the 1989 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp

CASSETTE: Bulgarian Folk Dances YM-UOP-89 Side A/1 7/16 meter

RHYTHM: Music is in 7/16 meter (1-2-3, 1-2, 1-2) heard as three beats with the first being slightly longer in duration. Counted here as 1,2,3.

FORMATION: Open circle or line with hands joined in "V" pos, leader at R end.
Face diag R of ctr, wt on L ft.

STEPS and
STYLING: Run*, lift*.

All steps are done with an easy flexing of the knees and ankles. Posture is erect, relaxed and dignified. The dance has a calm, leisurely feeling.

*Described in Steps & Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

MUSIC	7/16 meter	PATTERN
-------	------------	---------

Measures

16 meas INTRODUCTION No action. Begin with vocal.

PATTERN

1 Moving in LOD (CCW), step on R ft (ct 1); small lift on R as L ft moves fwd (ct 2); step fwd on L ft (ct 3).

2 Repeat meas 1.

3-4 Still moving in LOD, run 3 small steps R,L,R (cts 1,2,3). Run L,R,L (cts 1,2,3). Accent each ct 1 with a little deeper bend of the knee.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

9 The floor pattern of meas 9-12 is a shallow inverted "V".
Facing diag R of ctr, step fwd on R (ct 1); lift on R ft while extending L ft fwd and raising joined hands to "W" pos (cts 2-3).

10 Continuing to move diag R of ctr, step fwd on L ft (ct 1); lift on L ft while bending R knee and raising R ft up behind (cts 2-3). On lift, turn 1/4 CCW to face diag L of ctr.

- 11 Facing diag L of ctr, step bkwd on R ft, starting to move joined hands fwd and down (ct 1); step bkwd on L ft, joined hands continuing down to "V" pos (cts 2-3).
- 12 Continuing on same diag, step bkwd on R (ct 1); lift on R ft while bending L knee and raising L ft up behind (cts 2-3).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12 with opp ftwk and direction.

DANCE SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written until music ends.

Lyrics Snošti e Dobra, kâsno sedela (2)
Oj, Dobro, Dobro, Dobra nevesto (2)
Ta e naprela devet vretena (2)
Devet vretena tenka osnova (2)

Dobra sat very late last night. Dobra, the bride,
spun nine spindles full of fine threads.