

Gradchansko Gruncharsko

(From the village of Gradets, Vidin region, NW Bulgaria)

Meter: 9/8 (2+3+2+2) – Each measure can be counted “one (1) - two (2) - three (3) -four (4)”. Emphasis on (2) and (4).

This dance is a variety of Gruncharsko Horo (Potter’s Dance) and can be done to many different pieces of music.

The styling is energetic, with the arms swinging forward and back in a V-hold.

There is aperiodic synchronization between musical phrase and dance phrase.

The basic motion is “Gruncharka” and it resembles the motion of the potter’s wheel: step on R (1); emphasized step on L and Reversed Bicycle Motion (RBM) with R (2); bounce on L (3); RBM with R (4). First “Gruncharka” usually starts with a step, the following ones start with a bounce. Depending on the leg doing the RBM “Gruncharka” is further defined as either R or L.

Figure 1

Measures: 1-5 (LOD), 6-10 (RLOD)

1. “Gruncharka” with R
 2. “Gruncharka” with L
 3. “Gruncharka with R
 4. Hop on L (1); step on R to R facing center (2); step on L to R crossing in front of R (3); step on R to R (4).
 5. Step on L to R crossing behind R (1); step on R to R (2); step on L to R crossing in front of R (3); close R to L (4).
- 6-10. Same as measures 1-5 but with opposite footwork and direction.

Figure 2 - Facing center.

Measures:

1. Hop on L (1); emphasized step on R to R (2); leap onto L to R (3); step on R to R.
 2. “Gruncharka” with L.
 3. “Gruncharka” with R.
 4. “Gruncharka” with L.
- 5-8. Same as measures 1-4 but with opposite footwork and direction.

Figure 3 - Same as Figure 2 but forward (measure 1) and back (measure 5).

Figure 4

Measures: 1-4 (LOD), 5-8 (facing center)

- 1-4. Leap onto R to R (1); close L to R bending the upper body (2); leap onto R lifting L back (3); step on L to R (4).
5. “Hlopka” (click) R to L (1); step on R (2); “Hlopka” L to R or a reel step with L (3); step on L (4).
6. “Gruncharka” with L

7. "Gruncharka" with R (wider)

8. Two reel steps - R, L.

Described and presented by Yuliyana Yordanov, © 2005