

Hora șchioapă

(Moldova, Romania)

Hora, plural Hore (same reading as Greek Horae), is the name of an ancient circular dance, which survived up to now days in Romania. In the ancient times, naked women danced it. In Romania three clay depictions were found of this dance, two of them having five dancers and one with six dancers. The last one, which is the most famous, was found at Bodești-Frumușica, in Moldavia. All of them are dating from 4000–3000 BC.

The word șchioapă means limping and this dance is a great example of very old Hore.

Pronunciation: HOH-rah CHKIOHAH-peu

Music: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, Special Edition, Band 10* or *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Vol. 3, Band 10* 2/4 meter

Formation: Mixed circle, hands up in W-pos, facing ctr.

Steps & Styling: Throughout the dance the knees are soft, not locked. Arms bounce slightly up and down.

Meas Ct Pattern

INTRODUCTION

1-16 Do 32 walking steps moving and facing slightly to the R (LOD), starting with R ft. Do tiny circles with your hands, up first, twd ctr. On the last count turn to face ctr.

Traditionally, however, the dancers move towards the ctr and form the Hora gradually. It is simpler and more natural to listen to a few bars of the music before starting to walk. If the dancers are already in a circle, it is better to wait four (4) meas before all begin together, and then do 24 walking steps.

I. TO CENTER AND BACKING OUT

Meas	Ct	
1-2	1-3	Walk 3 steps (R, L, R) twd ctr.
2	4	Touch with L ball next to R.
3-4	1-3	Walk 3 steps (L, R, L) bkwd away from ctr.
	4	Stamp R without wt beside and slightly in front of L, toes pointing diag to L 20°.
	&	Stamp R without wt beside and slightly in front of L, toes pointing diag to R 20°.
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4.

II. GRAPEVINE FACING CENTER AND MOVING L AND R

1	1	Step on R crossing in front of L.
	2	Step on L to L.

Hora șchioapă—continued

Meas	Ct	
2	1	Step on R behind L turning body slightly twd R
	2	Touch L ball of ft without wt very slightly to L.
3	1	Moving R, step on L crossing in front of R.
	2	Step on R to the side.
4	1	Step on L behind R turning body slightly twd L;
	2	Stamp R without wt beside and slightly in front of L, R toes pointing 20° diag to L.
	&	Stamp R without wt beside and slightly in front of L, R toes pointing 20° diag R.
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4.

III. PROMENADE WITH SCUFF

1	1	Moving to L and facing slightly to L, step on R across and in front of L.
	2	Step on L to L.
2-3		Repeat meas 1 twice (3 total).
4	1	Standing on L, scuff R in front of L, finishing with R raised and bent at the knee.
	2	Turn to face ctr with stamp R to the R of L in front without wt
	&	Step with accent to the R and turn body facing slightly to R.
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4 with opposite ftwk and direction.
9-16		Repeat meas 1-8.

SEQUENCE: Introduction
 Fig I + Fig II + Fig III + 2 small steps twd ctr (R, L) +
 Fig I + Fig II + Fig III +
 Fig I + Fig II + Fig III + Step on R twd ctr + Step on L close to R ft.

Presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu