

EL JARABE TAPATIO
(el hah-RAH-beh tah-pah-TEE-oh)

This famous Mexican folk dance is commonly referred to as "the Mexican had dance" because the lady dances on the brim of her partner's sombrero, a wide brimmed Mexican hat. People who live on the outskirts of Guadalajara, capital of the state of Jalisco, are called Tapatios. The dance was developed in this region. In 1920, by proclamation of the Federal Government, Jarabe Tapatio became the national dance of Mexico.

The male dancer is called the charro, the Mexican horseman; the lady is known as the china because she wears the costume of the china poblano. The charro woos his china in the steps of the dance. Toward the end of the dance, he throws his sombrero at her feet for her to dance on. He knows he has been accepted when she picks up his hat and places it on her own head. She then dances with him the Diana, the last step, which means, "Congratulations to the charro for winning his china! May they live happily ever after".

SOURCE: Alura Flores de Angeles

MUSIC: 6/8, 2/4, and 3/4 time. Record is RCA VICTOR 75-8032, or Musart D90LP.

FORMATION: Ptrs facing each other in two lines.

PATTERN

Meas	Cts	
		FIGURE I:
1-7		Do 7 Jarabe #1 steps fwd to meet ptr with R shos.
8		Stamp R ft in place.
9-16		Repeat Meas. 1-8 across to ptr's orig pos, turning to the R to face ptr.
		FIGURE II:
1-7		Do 7 Jarabe #2 steps fwd to meet ptr with R shos.
8		Stamp R ft in place.
9-16		Repeat Meas. 1-8 back to orig pos.
		FIGURE III:
1-7		Do 7 Jarabe #1 steps across to finish in ptr's place, turning to face ptr.
8		Stamp R ft in place.
		FIGURE IV: (3/4 time)
1		Take 3 running steps twd ptr, starting with L ft.
2		Pivot to L by swinging R ft across L ft, ending with wt on L ft, having made a complete turn passing R shos.
3-4		Repeat Meas 1-2 to ptr's place, turning to face ptr.
5		Make a full turn to the R with 3 steps, starting with R ft.
6		Stamp L ft in place.
7		Make a full turn to the L with 3 steps, starting with L ft.
8		Stamp R ft in place.
9-12		Repeat Meas 5-8.
13-24		Repeat Meas 1-12.

continued...

FIGURE V: Borrachito (Drunken) Stap. (3/4 time)

- 1 1 Fall on R ft slightly fwd.
 2 Cross L ft behind R ft.
 3 Step R on R ft.
 2 Repeat Meas 1 to the L with opp ftwk.
 3-6 Repeat Meas. 1-2 twice while exchanging places with ptr, passing R shos and turning to the R to face ptr.
 7 1 Rock fwd on R ft, keeping L ft in back of R ft.
 2 Rock bkwd on L ft.
 3 Rock fwd on R ft.
 8 Repeat Meas 7, reversing direction and ftwk.
 9-16 Repeat Meas 1-8 back to place, ending up facing ptr.

FIGURE VI:

- 1-16 Repeat the movements of FIGURE I, using Hojas de te steps instead of Jarabe #1 steps.

FIGURE VII: (2/4 time)

- 1-2 Take 3 running steps twd ptr as in FIG. IV, beg pivot on ct 2 of Meas. 2.
 3-4 Pivot to L as in FIG. IV.
 5-6 Do 4 flat-pushes back to place, circling R around ptr. Do the flat-push as follows:
 1 Moving to the R, push with the L ft and step on the R ft.
 & Close L ft to R ft.
 7-12 Repeat Meas. 1-6.
 During Meas. 9-12 the charro drops his sombrero at the W's feet. Both dance around the sombrero to the R.

FIGURE VIII: (2/4 time)

- 1-8 Cpl does 8 pas de basques around the sombrero, beg with R ft on ct. 2 of the preceding measure.
 9-16 Cpl does 8 rocking steps as in FIG. V, only taking 2 steps (R,L) instead of the 3 steps for each meas., and starting on ct 2 of the preceding meas.
 17-18 While china goes down on R knee and picks up sombrero, charro swings his R leg over her head, crossing his R ft across his L, making an elaborate pivot to the L. China then rises with sombrero on her head.

FIGURE IX: The Diana

- 1-2 Holding inside hands and starting with R ft, cpl takes 4 skipping reel steps fwd. (Step R in front of L, hop, etc.)
 3-4 Cpl takes 4 skipping reel steps bkwd.
 5-8 Repeat Meas 1-4.
 9 1 Hop on L ft, touching R heel diag fwd.
 2 Hop on L ft, touching R toe in front of L ft.
 10 1 Repeat Meas 9, ct 1.
 2 Land on both feet in place.
 11-12 Repeat Meas. 9-10 with opp ftwk.
 13-16 Repeat Meas 9-12.
 17-22 Repeat Meas 1-6.
 23 Cpl takes 2 skipping reel steps bkwd.
 24 Charro kneels on L knee, extending R hand to the china, after having turned her to the L under his arm. She then puts her L ft on his R knee and places her L hand in his R hand.