

KARAGOUNA

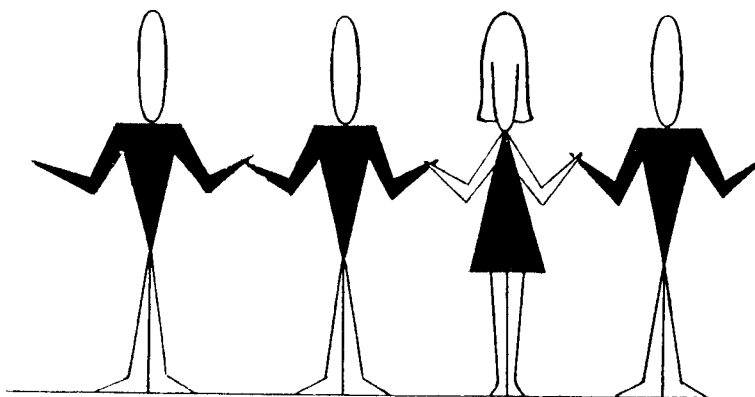
Greek Line Dance

Pronounced Kair-ah-góo-nah

Because this Greek dance is very satisfying in movement and in music it has become a favorite of the college students. They especially enjoy the contrasting movements of the walks and the hip twists. The last part of the dance, the Syrtos, (the Greeks call this part the Kalamatianos) which is quite fast offers a delightful change of pace.

Styling: All of the steps are taken with a bouncing action of the supporting knee.

Although there are many recordings for the Karagouna dance, some of them do not include the fast part. The leader on the right end of the line should make whatever adjustments are necessary.



Record: Greek Dance Party, Tikva T-131, Side A, Band 4.

Other suggested recordings: Greek Folk Dances, Folkraft LP-3.

Picnic in Greece, OL 24-13.

Formation: Line or broken circle. Leader on right end.

Joined hands are shoulder high.

Free foot – R.

Line of direction (LOD) is counterclockwise.

Note: It is easier to learn this dance if the Syrto dance on page 144 has been mastered. The Syrto may be done with or without the hop.

Music 2/4

Measures

1-8 Introduction - wait 16 counts.

1-4 A Slow Walk & Point

}	(Face to R)		(Face Center)					
	1	2	1	2	ah - 1	2	1	2
	WALK	WALK;	WALK	POINT;	HOP-STEP	POINT;	POINT	POINT;
	↗	↗	↗	↑	↓	↘	↘	↘
	R	L	R	(L)	R - L	(R)	(R)	(R)

5-16 REPEAT "A" THREE MORE TIMES

1-4 B* Hip Twist

}	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
	SIDE	CLOSE;	SIDE	CLOSE;	SIDE	CLOSE;	SIDE	CLOSE;
	→		→		→		→	
	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L

5-8 C Hop-Hop

}	(Face center - while hopping, hold the free leg across in front)									
	1	2	&	1	2	1	2	&	1	2
	POINT	HOP-HOP;		STEP	TOUCH;	POINT	HOP-HOP;	STEP	TOUCH;	
	↗		↘	←	↗		↗	↗	↗	↗
	(R)	L - L		(L)	(L)	R - R		L	(R)	

9-12 D Fast Syrto

}	(Face right)					(Face center)						
	1	2	&	1	2	&	1	2	&	1	2	&
	STEP	STEP-STEP;		FRONT	STEP-STEP;		SIDE	OVER-BACK	SIDE	OVER-BACK;		
	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
	R	L - R		L	R - L		R	L - R		L	R - L	

13-16 REPEAT "D" EXACTLY.

*On the "side" step, twist the body to face left. Let the hip lead. On the "close" face the center.

NOTE: If recording does not include the fast music, omit "D" but repeat "B" and "C."

References in Bibliography: 13 (p. 42), 18 (p. 99).

KARAGOUNA

(GREECE)

Note: For easy reading open staples,
remove description, close staples.

Karagouna (Kah-rah-goo'-nah) learned by Dick Crum from Mr. Stavros Kalaras, Athenian folk dance teacher now living in Pittsburgh, Pa., was presented by Dick Crum at the College of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in 1960.

MUSIC: Record: Colonial LP 127
Festival 3510 "Karagouna"

FORMATION: Open circle: throughout the dance hands remain joined about shoulder height; leader at the R end of line should be a M.
Variations are danced only after they have been done by the leader. Variation I and II are danced by both M and W; Variation III is danced only by M.

STEPS AND WALK* (knees are flexible)
STYLING: Hop* (more like a "lift" instead of a definite hop)
Side Step: Facing ctr, step swd to R, with R (ct1). With very slight turn of body to R, close L a little fwd of R (ct 2).

Full Knee Bend: From a standing pos assume squatting pos (back straight - sit over toes, knees turned out) (ct 1), rise (spring) to upright pos, simultaneously hopping twice on L ft, swinging R across in front of L (ct 2 &).

* Described in Volumes of Folk Dances from Near and Far, published by Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 150 Powell St., San Francisco, California.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

1-3 INTRODUCTION (no action)

I. WALKING

1 Beginning R, moving LOD, step R, L (cts 1, 2).

2 Step R, turning to face ctr (ct 1). Point L fwd and pause (ct 2).

3 Step L bwd in place (ct 1). Point R toe diag back of L heel (ct 2).

4 Point R toe fwd in front of L toe (ct 1). Point R toe diag back of L heel (ct 2).

12 meas Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig I) three times.

VARIATION I - Fig I.

1 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1.

2 Step R, turning to face ctr (ct 1). Point L fwd, hop R, kicking L a bit fwd (ct 2, &).

3-4 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 3-4.

VARIATION II - Fig I.

1 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1.

2 Step R turning to face ctr (ct 1). Step on L toe behind R heel (ct &).
Step on R toe behind L heel (ct 2). Note: Meas 2 is similar to a slow reel step.
When bringing one ft behind the other, the ft "hug" each other.

3-4 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 3-4.

II. SIDE STEP

- 1-4 Dance four side steps; move swd LOD.
- 5 Point R diag fwd to R, no wt (ct 1). With two small hops on L, swing R across in front of L (ct 2, &).
- 6 Step R to L of L (ct 1). Point L diag fwd, no wt (ct 2).
- 7 Point L again diag fwd L (ct 1). With two small hops on R, swing L across in front of R (cts 2, &).
- 8 Step L to R of R (ct 1). Point R diag fwd to R, no wt (ct 2).
- 1-8 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig II).
(repeated)

VARIATION III (M) - Fig II

- 1-4 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-4.
- 5 Dance Full Knee Bend
- 6 Step R to L of L (ct 1). Point L diag fwd L (ct 2).
- 7 Repeat action of meas 5 (Variation III), hopping twice on R.
- 8 Step L to R of R (ct 1). Point R diag fwd R, no wt (ct 2).

This description of Karagouna does not include a Fig III sometimes inserted into the dance, consisting of 8 meas of ordinary Syrtos Kalamatianos steps. This Fig III is not originally part of Karagouna, but is sometimes added by Greek performing groups to give variety to the dance.

