

Kopačkata

(Yugoslavia)

This version of Kopačkata (koh-PAHCH-kah-tah) was collected from the Šop village of Dramče in the Delčevo region of Eastern Macedonia. Kopačkata is a men's dance and is accompanied in Dramče by one or more tapans (large drums). The word "kopačka" refers to the digging movement in the fourth variation. Kopačkata was presented by Steven Kotansky at the 1988 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

CASSETTE: Garlic Press Productions GGP 003 Side A/1 2/4 meter

FORMATION: Open circle or line of dancers, belt hold (L over R), leader at R end.
Face slightly R of ctr.

STEPS and Chug*.

STYLING:

Čukče: Lift heel of weight-bearing ft on the upbeat and lower it on the beat.

Scoop/kick: Swing or dig ft fwd as in back-pedaling a bicycle.

*Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of Calif., Inc.

MUSIC	2/4 meter	PATTERN
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Measures

Gaida solo plus 8 meas INTRODUCTION During gaida solo the leader leads the line in LOD (CCW) with slow walking steps, as though the villagers are gathering to dance. When the full orchestra begins to play, face ctr and sway R and L alternately for 8 meas (8 sways), moving slightly bkwd. Thus, Fig I starts 8 meas after the full orchestra begins.

I. TRAVELLING

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step on R ft fwd in LOD (ct 1); step on L ft fwd in LOD (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Step on R ft fwd in LOD with a sinking and low rising action (cts 1-2).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk.
- 5 Turning to face ctr, step on R ft to R (ct 1); lift L ft slightly in front (ct 2).
- 6 Dance a small step on L to L side (ct 1); step on R to L, slightly in front of L ft (ct 2).
- 7 Repeat meas 6.
- 8 Step on L ft bkwd diag L with a sinking and rising action (cts 1-2).

- 9-10 Turning to face slightly R of ctr, repeat meas 3-4, while keeping tension in the line as it pulls to the R in unison.
- 11-50 Repeat meas 1-10 four more times (5 in all).

II. BASIC

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, and with ft slightly apart, Čukče on L ft, leaving R ft in contact with floor (ct 1); transfer wt onto R ft (ct &); close L ft to R ft (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- NOTE: Only this time are these two meas (meas 1-2) danced moving sdwd in LOD. On all repeats stay facing ctr and move bkwd diag R.
- 3 Flat-footed, step on R ft fwd in LOD (ct 1); step on L ft beside R ft (ct &); step on R ft fwd in LOD (ct 2).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk.
- 5 Turning to face ctr, step on R ft to R (ct 1); Čukče on R ft and lift L ft slightly up in front (ct 2).
- 6 Čukče on R ft and place L ft flat to L side (ct 1); Čukče on R ft and sharply bring L ft to R lower leg (ct 2).
- 7 Čukče on R ft and place L ft flat to L side (ct 1); chug on both ft, L ft moving fwd a little (ct 2).
- 8 Flatfooted, step L,R,L in place (cts 1,&,2).
- 9 Moving fwd twd ctr, step R,L,R (cts 1,&,2).
- 10 Repeat meas 9 with opp ftwk.
- 11-50 Repeat meas 1-10 four more times (five in all) remembering on each repeat of meas 1-2 to dance bkwd diag R.

III. BASIC WITH HOOKS

- 1-8 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-8 (moving bkwd diag R on meas 1-2).
- 9 Lift slightly on L ft and hook R ft above L ankle (ct 1); step on R ft fwd (ct 2).
- 10 Repeat meas 9 with opp ftwk.
- 11 Leap onto R ft to R (ct 1); step on L across behind R (ct 2). (This meas replaces meas 1.)
- 12-20 Repeat meas 2-10.
- 21-50 Repeat meas 11-20 three times.