

KRIVATA

Bulgaria (Western Thrace)

In the area of western Thrace, east of the Sofia region, dances in 11/16 meter with a rhythm pattern of "quick-quick-slow-quick-quick" (known elsewhere in Bulgaria as *Gankini horá* or *Kopanici*) are called *krivi horá* (literally 'crooked' or 'irregular'). An example of these is the dance *Krivata* (KREE-vuh-tuh) from the village of Goljama Rakovica. It is the only mixed dance in this rhythm done in the village. When the musicians begin to play it, both younger and older people get up to dance it, several times during a dance event.

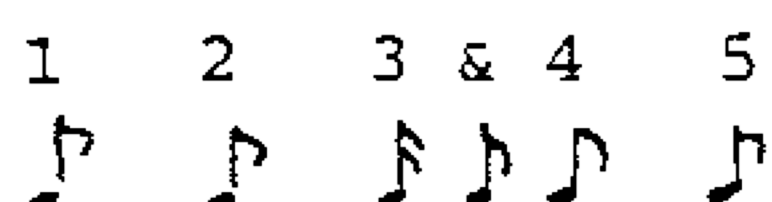
The two variations given below are not really separate "figures". The first, 3-measure pattern is the ordinary *krivo* pattern found throughout the general eastern Shope/western Thrace region. The second (4 measures) is done after the first variation has been done for a while; the music has usually accelerated by that time, and the dancers use the second variation to "cover ground". Occasionally the leader will return to the first variation as a kind of break.

Recording: Any moderate-speed *Gankino* or *Kopanica*. XOPO 328 is good.

Meter and rhythm: 11/16, counted quick-quick-slow-quick-quick:



Note: In meas 5 of Variation 2, this rhythm is further split by the insertion of a *bloop-bloop* step on count 3:



Formation: Lines of dancers (mixed, sometimes all W) with belt hold.

MEASURE	ACTION
<u>Variation 1 - 3-measure basic <i>krivo</i> or <i>Gankino</i></u>	
1	Facing slightly R of ctr, step Rft in LOD (1); continue, stepping Lft in LOD (2); continue, stepping Rft in LOD (3); with preliminary hitch-hop (uh-) on Rft, step Lft in LOD (4); pause (5).
2	Continuing, step Rft in LOD (1); continue, stepping Lft in LOD (2); step Rft in LOD (3); close Lft to Rft (no wt on Lft) (4); pause (5).
3	Moving to L (but still facing slightly R!) step Lft (1); step Rft behind Lft (2); step Lft L (3); close Rft to Lft (no wt on Rft) (4); pause (5).
<u>Variation 2 - 4-measure traveling figure</u>	
1-2	Same movements as meas 1-2 of Variation 1.
3	Still facing diagonally to R, step Lft L (1); close Rft to Lft taking wt on Rft (2); step Lft L again (3); moving fwd in LOD, step Rft (4); continue fwd, step Lft (5).
4	Continuing fwd in LOD: step Rft (1); step Lft (2); do two quick, light steps on balls of feet in <i>bloop-bloop</i> rhythm, R-L (♩ ♩ = 3 &); step Rft (4); step Lft (5).

Presented by Dick Cram
Notes by Dick Cram