

Presented by Atanas Kolarovski

KRSTAČKO ORO
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The dance is also known as "Teška Krstačka." "Teška" means "Heavy" so dance name means "heavy crossing step."

In general, 50 years ago, all of these dances were done in separate lines and are still done this way by exhibition groups. However now, at celebrations, most of them are done in mixed lines.

This dance is done in Sveti Nicole in the Ovcepolje region and in many villages around this area. This is the most popular dance from this area. It is considered a temperamental dance. Many amateur and professional groups have accepted it because it is a naturally attractive dance for the stage when done in the village way. Watch very experienced dancers in a line doing this dance is a very pleasant experience. Spectators always surround the best dancers when it is done out in the village.

PRONUNCIATION:

RECORD: Songs and Dances of Yugoslavia, AK 006 (LP), Side 1
Band 3.

FORMATION: Mixed lines. If danced in separate lines, M use shldr hold or dance free style. W or mixed lines use "W" hold.

METER: 3/16 (Q,S)

Meas.

INTRODUCTION:

FIG. I:

- 1 With wt on R, lift on R and point L toe fwd (cts 1-3).
- 2 Lift on R and point L toe to L side.
- 3 Lift on R (ct 1), step L across R (ct 2), lift R behind L calf (ct 3).
- 4 Slight lift on L (ct 1), step R (ct 2), lift L behind R calf (ct 3).

FIG. II:

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig. I.
- 3 Hop on R (ct 1), step L across R (ct 2), hold (ct 3).
- 4 Lift on L (ct 1), step R (ct 2), hop on R and raise L behind R (ct 3).
- 5 Step L bkwd (ct 1), hold (cts 2-3).
- 6 Lift high on R (ct 1), step L (ct 2), hold (ct 3).

- 7 Lift on L (ct 1), step R to R (ct 2), step L across R (ct 3).
8 Lift on L (ct 1), step R (ct 2), hold (ct 3).

FIG. III:

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig. I, then drop hands (release).

Note: Make 1 full turn CW on meas 3-4.

- 3 Hop on R (ct 1), lift L (ct 2), step L (ct 3).
4 Hop on L (ct 1), lift R (ct 2), step R (ct 3).
5-8 Repeat Fig. II, meas 5-8.

MEN'S VARIATIONS:

M move into ctr of circle, taking shldr hold. W form line, using "W" pos, around outside of M circle.

M's Variation #1:

- 1-4 Same as Fig. II, meas 1-4.
5 Instead of touching back, M kneel on L knee on ct 1, rise on ct 3.
6-8 Repeat Fig. II, meas 6-8.

W dance regular Fig. II.

M's Variation #2: (M turn)

- 1-4 Repeat Fig. III, meas 1-4.
5 Repeat M's Var. #1, meas 5.
6-8 Repeat Fig. III, meas 6-8.

W dance regular Fig. III.

M's Variation #3:

- 1-4 Repeat M's Var. #2, Meas 1-4.
5 Kneel on L knee
6 Put R knee down, wt on both knees.
7 Place L fwd, wt on R knee.
8 Rise, hop on L, lifting R (cts 1-2), step R (ct 3).

W dance regular Fig. III.

This description is meant as refresher notes only, for use after having learned the dance from a qualified instructor. Proper styling must be learned in person as it cannot be adequately described in writing.