

**MECHOL HALAHAT**  
**[MEH-CHOLE HAH-LAH-HAHT]**  
**(ISRAEL)**

This cheery melody, composed by Gilad, has at least one other choreography, which is often true of Israeli dances. This pattern is by Yankele Levy and is popular in some U.S. Israeli dance groups. The name means "Dance of Flames." Please note that in Hebrew, the sound transliterated here as ch is not pronounced as in chew but with a slight guttural.

Music: Originally on the well-loved Tikva 69 album, it has been reissued on WorldTone 7" record, 10039. Meter: 4/4

Formation: Two opposing lines, each person facing another (or not) across the set.

Pattern

Introduction = 4½ measures

meas

Part I

- 1 Walk to own R: R, L, R, face L and lift L leg or touch L heel (clap)
- 2 Walk to own L: L, R, L, face R and lift R leg or touch R heel (clap-clap)
- 3-4 Repeat meas. 1 & 2

Part II

- 1 Facing other line: Step R, kick L, step L-R-L (small bkwd-bkwd-fwd)
- 2 Kick R, kick R, step R-L-R (small bkwd-bkwd-fwd)
- 3 Kick L, kick L, step L-R-L (" " " " )
- 4 Kick R, kick R, step R-L-R (" " " " )

Part III

- 1 Moving toward person across: L, R, L (lift R leg in back), clap other person's hands; styling is a swaying walk, hands clasped in back until clap
- 2 Moving backward, away from person: R, L, R-L-R to place
- 3-4 Repeat meas. 1 & 2
- tag Add an extra L-R-L, or heavy step on L & hold, while preparing to move to the R when dance begins again.

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PRESENTED BY SANNA LONGDEN. Notes by Sanna Longden © 1995, as done in Chicago.