

RUKAVICE – TODORE

(Valpovačka Kola)
Slavonia, Croatia



This dance comes from several Slavonian villages in the immediate vicinity of Valpovo and close to Osijek, the largest town in Slavonija. Women dress in a completely different national costume, which is extremely ornate and full. Frequent improvisations and syncopated beats are the distinguishing features of this dance, which used to be performed to the accompaniment of the bagpipe (gajde) or the solo tamburitza (samica), while in most recent times, a tambura orchestra, sometimes combined with a violin, has taken their place.

Željko Jergan did research in 1978 and 1985 in the Valpovština region in the villages of Bizovac, Brodjanzi, Habjanovci and Ladimirevci.

TRANSLATION: Rukavice (Gloves) – Todore (Todo is a name; Todo's Dance)
Valpovačka Kola - Circle dances from Valpovo

PRONUNCIATION: ROO-KAH-VEE-TSE (Rukavice) / TOH-DOH-REH (Todore)
VAHL-poh-VAHCH-kah KOH-lah

CD: "BAŠTINA HRVATSKOG SELA" by Otriv, track #18

CASSETTE: "Croatian Folk Dances", Vol. 2, side A/1 by Jerry Grcevic
"Treasury of Croatian Dances", side A/2 by Jerry Grcevic

FORMATION: Cpls in a closed circle - the dance is also danced in pairs or trios. When dancing in a circle M hands are joined behind the W back, W hands are on M shldr of either side of her.

STYLE: Bounce with heel clicks and stamping. Some steps are flatfooted, while other are done on the balls of the ft. All steps are small and delicate. Knees flex throughout, and the body has an elegant posture.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

RUKAVICE

INTRODUCTION: 4 meas.

Style: Very bouncy with ftwk done on the balls of the ft.

Part A: Heel touches

- 1 Facing ctr and moving sdwd L - hop on R as L heel touches fwd on floor (ct 1); step L slightly to L (ct &); step R beside L (ct 2).
- 2-3 Repeat meas. 1, 2 more times (3 in all).
- 4 Step L, R, L in place (cts 1-&-2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas. 1-4 with opp ftwk - move sdwd R.

Part B: Heel-toe

- 1 Facing ctr and dancing in place - hop on R as L heel touches fwd on floor (ct 1); hop on R as L toe touches beside R (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas. 1 again (2 times in all).

continued...



- 3-4 Facing ctr and moving sdwd L - beg L, do 7 steps (side-close) (1-&-2-&, 1-&-2); hold (ct &).
Style note: Knees are quite rigid; the bounce comes from ankle flexes.
- 5-8 Repeat meas. 1-4 with opp ftwk - move sdwd R.

*** Repeat Rukavice Dance from beg one more time.

TODORE

FIG. I: Style: Flat footed

Double bounce with heels opening & closing

- 1 Facing ctr and dancing in place - step on R as straight L leg moves sdwd L (ct 1); close L to R bouncing on both ft (ct 2); bounce again on both f (ct &).
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1, 2 more times (3 in all).
- 4 With wt on balls of ft, heels open out (ct 1); close heels tog (ct 2).
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4, alternating ftwk, 3 more times (4 in all).

FIG. II:

Double bounces with touches

- 1-3 Repeat meas 1-3, Part A (R, bounce, bounce)
- 4 Step on R as L moves fwd close to floor (ct 1); hop on R, 2 times as ball of L ft touches fwd (cts 2-&).
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4, alternating ftwk 3 more times (4 in all).

FIG. III: Note: The fwd and bkwd movements are extremely small.

Scuffs

- 1 Facing ctr and dancing in place - step R slightly fwd (ct 1); scuff L heel fwd (ct &); hop on R slightly bkwd (ct 2); step L slightly bkwd (ct &).
- 2-3 Repeat meas. 1, 2 more times (3 in all).
- 4 Step R in place (ct 1); hop on R, L beg to move fwd (ct 2); touch L in front of R (ct &).
- 5-6 Repeat meas. 1-3 with opp ftwk (L-scuff-R, 2x).
- 7 Stamp L slightly fwd (ct 1); scuff R heel fwd (ct &); hop on L (2); scuff R heel fwd (ct &).
- 8 Hop on L (ct 1); scuff R heel fwd (ct &); Step on R, L in place (cts. 2,&)
- Note: The scuffs have a bkwd bicycle type of motion.
- 9-16 Repeat meas. 1-8, alternating ftwk 1 more time (2 in all).

FIG. IV:

Circle L & R

- 1 Facing L of ctr and moving CW (L) - step R fwd (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2); step L fwd (ct &).
- 2-7 Repeat meas. 1, 6 more times (7 in all).
- 8 Step R, L, R in place - turn to face R of ctr.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 with opp ftwk - move fwd CCW (R).

*** Repeat Todore Dance from beg
one more time.

