

# ŠEKEREČKA / BAŠISTOVSKÁ SLOVAKIA

Šekerečka (SHEH-kare-rech-kah) and *Bašistovská* (BAH-shee-stov-skah) are mens' dances from the region of Šariš in East Slovakia. They belong to a group of dances called *Mládenecké Tance* (old and variable forms of young mens' dances). Šekerečka means "little hatchet" and the words to the accompanying song are about a young man who has a blunt hatchet that needs sharpening and a pretty girl he must have. Bašistovská refers to the melody, and the dance called Bašistovská is danced only to this melody.

Vonnie R. Brown first learned Bašistovská In Slovakia In 1978 from Jaroslav Ševčík and Ervin Varga. She has observed and recorded the dance on research trips to Slovakia since 1976. The Bašistovská presented here, as well as Šekerečka, were learned by Vonnie in Slovakia during November of 1991 from Vladimír Urban of Košice.

MUSIC: Tape cassette - Dances From Slovakia, Volume 1, Vonnie R. Brown

FORMATION: A circle of M facing LOD (CCW). Hands are not Joined. Dancer clasps own hands behind his back or tucks his thumbs in his belt near buckle.

STEPS: ŠEKEREČKA  
Traveling Step (step, close, step, touch)

Meas 1: Facing LOD, step fwd on R ft (ct 1); step on L ft next to R (ct &); step fwd on R ft (ct 2); close L ft next to R, no wt (ct &).

Meas 2: Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.

The steps are small, flat-footed with a shuffling quality.

BAŠISTOVSKÁ  
Back-Crossing Triple Step

Meas 1: Facing LOD, step fwd and slightly sdwd R on R ft, heel leading (ct 1); step on L ft behind R (ct step on full R ft with accent (ct 2); hold (ct &).

Meas 2: Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.

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METER: 2/4

PATTERN

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Meas

## ŠEKEREČKA

INTRODUCTION None Dance begins immediately.

### I. MOTIF A

#### In LOD

- 1-4 Facing LOD, do four Traveling Steps fwd, beg with R ft. On the fourth Traveling Step, the last a ct, do not close R ft to L.
- 5 Facing ctr, stamp R ft fwd, no wt (ct 1); hold (ct &) close R ft next to L, with wt (ct 2); hold (ct &).
- 6 With wt on balls of both ft, click heels together (or bounce on heels) three times (cts 1, &, 2); hold (ct &).
- 7-8 Do two Traveling Steps fwd in LOD, beg R. On the second Traveling Step, the last & ct. do not close R ft to L.
- 9-12 Repeat meas 5-8 but on meas 12, the last & ct, put wt on R ft rather than touching it so L ft will be free (this will be four steps). With these four steps make a U-turn (1/2 turn to R twd outside of circle) to face RLOD.

In RLOD

13-24 Repeat meas 1-12 with opp ftwk and direction.

II. MOTIF B

In LOD

1-4 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-4 (four Traveling Steps fwd beg R).

5 Facing ctr, stamp R ft fwd, no wt (ct 1); hold (ct &); lift R leg and slap inside of R boot with R hand (ct 2).

6 Repeat Fig I, meas 6 (click heels together or bounce three times).

7-8 Repeat Fig I, meas 7-8 (two Traveling Steps fwd beg on R ft).

9-12 Repeat Fig II, meas 5-8. Again, on meas 12, the last & ct, put wt on R ft so L ft will be free.

With these four steps make a U-turn to R twd outside of circle to face RLOD.

In RLOD

13-24 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-12 with opp ftwk and direction.

III. MOTIF C

In LOD

1-12 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-12 except on meas 6 and 10 (click heels together three times) also clap the hands together at chest level three times.

In RLOD

13-22 Repeat Fig III, meas 1-10 with opp ftwk and direction.

23-24 Repeat Fig III, meas 9-10 with opp ftwk (stamp R ft fwd, slap R boot, click heels or bounce three times clapping hands together at chest level three times).

**BAŠISTOVSKÁ**

I. TRAVELING STEP A OR B; BOOTSLAPPING MOTIF A OR B  
DO EITHER TRAVELING STEP A OR B

Traveling Step A (Back-Crossing Triple Steps)

1-7 Facing and moving in LOD, do seven Back-Crossing Triple steps.

8 Face ctr and stamp L, R, L (cts 1, &, 2); hold (ct &).

**or** Traveling Step B (Back-Crossing Triple Steps with Apart-Together)

1-2 Facing and moving in LOD, do two Back-Crossing Triple Steps beg R.

3 Repeat cts 1, & of Back-Crossing Triple Step (cts 1, &); Jump Into second pos (ft apart) (ct 2); Jump closing ft together in first pos parallel (ct &).

4 Repeat meas 3, cts 2, with opp ftwk (cts 1, repeat meas 3, cts 2, (cts 2,&).

5-7 Repeat meas 1-3.

8 Face ctr and stamp L, R, L (cts 1, &, 2); hold (ct &).

DO EITHER BOOT-SLAPPING MOTIF A OR B

Boot-Slapping Motif A

- 9 Lift R knee and slap inside of R boot with R hand (ct 1); step on R ft next to L and clap both hands together twice at chest level (cts &, 2); hold (ct &)
- 10 Repeat meas 9 with opp ftwk.
- 11 Lift R knee and slap inside of R boot with R hand twice (cts 1, 2).
- 12 Step on R ft next to L and clap both hands at chest level three times (cts 1, &, 2); hold (ct &).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12 with opp ftwk and hand.

**or** Boot-Slapping Motif B

This motif is the same as Motif A except ftwk is added.

- 9 Lift R knee and slap inside of R boot with R hand (ct 1); step on R ft sdwd R and clap hands together at chest level (ct &); step on L ft behind R and clap hands together again (ct 2); hold (ct &).
- 10 Leap onto R ft lifting L knee and slap inside of L boot with L hand (ct 1); step on L ft sdwd L and clap hands together at chest level (ct &); step on R ft behind L and clap hands together again (ct 2); hold (ct &).
- 11 Leap onto L ft lifting R knee and slap Inside of R boot with R hand twice (cts 1, 2).
- 12 Step on R ft sdwd R and clap hands together at chest level (ct 1); step on L ft behind R and clap hands together (ct &); close R ft next to L and clap hands together once again (ct 2); hold (ct &).
- 13-16 Repeat Fig II, meas 9-12 with opp ftwk and direction.

REPEAT DANCE FROM BEG.  
DANCE IS DONE A TOTAL OF THREE TIMES.