

MEHZELOO

ARMENIAN MISIRLOU

This popular Greek-American dance has been adopted by American-Armenians, with a slightly different handhold. American-Armenians prefer to use "Armenian hold" with almost every foreign line dance they do (e.g. Misirlou, Dabke, Syrtos, Tsamiko). Many American-Armenians mistakenly think this dance is of Armenian origin, because it is so common. In fact, "Mehzeloo" has been presented by performing groups as a traditional village dance from Western Armenia! MISIRLOU is an imitation Greek dance made up in America, and is as alien to Greece as the SHUFFLE is to Hayastan (Armenia).

- Source: Armenian community of Greater Boston.
- Music: Dance Armenian Side A-band #4, or any good 4/4 'Misirlou' or 'Chifte Telli' tempo.
- Style: Relaxed, smooth movements. This dance does not begin with an extreme kick forward nor end with a heavy stamping squat (two common faults of beginners and the very young).
- Formation: Open circle dance in "Armenian hold" (little fingers interlocked with hands held at shoulder height).

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Ct.</u>	<u>Movements</u>
1	1,2&	Step on R in place (ct 1). Brush L forward with ball of foot (ct 2). Swing L around in low CCW arc, ending behind R (ct &).
2	3&4&	Step L behind R (ct 3). Step R to right (ct &). Step L in front of R (ct 4). Pivot on L CCW to face to the left (ct &).
3	5&6&	Step R across L to left side (ct 5). Step L beside R (ct &). Step R across L (ct 6). Pivot on R CW to face to the right (ct &).
4	7&8&	Step L across R to right side (ct 7). Step R beside L (ct &). Step L across R (ct 8). Pivot on L CCW to face center (ct &).