

SKOPSKO CIGANSKO ✓
Macedonia

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This dance is from the region of Skopje. Skopsko meaning "from Skopje" and Cigansko meaning "Gypsy." It is from the Tropana and Sutka districts. Sutka is a new area where the gypsy people relocated from the 1963 earthquake. Skopsko Cigansko can be seen all around the Skopje area today. It is such a basic dance that it might be considered like a national dance, and is probably the most well-known dance among the gypsies. It is danced at every opportunity--weddings, holy day celebrations, Slavias, national holidays, etc.

Although you will see small variations from these instructions, it is simple enough that travelers to Macedonia would be able to dance it when they are able to attend such a celebration in the Skopje area. All during the week of Dzurodzovn - the Spring Gypsy celebration of St. George, you will see this dance being done.

The music has an oriental rhythm in either 2/4 or 4/4 time with erotic movements of the shoulders and hips. This is done free style, according to the individual's wishes. The music is recorded by a Gypsy orchestra.

RECORD: Songs and Dances of Jugoslovia, AD-007 (LP), Side B, Band 6.

FORMATION: Lines with hands joined at shldr ht.

STYLE: Steps are flat footed. Dance with flexible knees.
Motion from hips and knees.

METER: 4/4

PATTERN

Meas.

STEP I:

- 1 Facing RLOD and moving diag bkwd, touch R bkwd (ct 1), step on R (ct 2), touch L bkwd (ct 3), step on L (ct 4).
- 2 Touch R toe (ct 1), step on R, face ctr (ct 2), step L,R (cts 3-4).
- 3 Lift on R (ct 1), step L in front of R (ct 2), step R behind L (ct 3), step L (ct 4).

Variation:

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2
- 3 Step on R (ct 1), step L in front of R (ct & 2), step R behind L with emphasis (ct 3), step L (ct 4).

STEP II:

- 1 Facing and moving LOD, touch R toe across L (ct 1), step on R (ct 2), touch L toe across R (ct 3), step L (ct 4).
- 2 Touch R toe across L (ct 1), step on R (ct 2), step L across R (ct 3), step R in place (ct 4).

- 3 Lift on R (ct 1), step L to L (ct 2), step R behind L (ct 3), hold (ct 4).
- 4 Step L in front of R (ct 1), hold (ct 2), step on R (ct 3), step L across R (ct 4).

Variations:

No. 1: Double step on meas 1 and 2.

- 1 Step R across L (ct 1), step L in place (ct &), step on R (ct 2), step L across L (ct 3), step R in place (ct &), step on L (ct 4).
- 2 Step R across L (ct 1), step L in place (ct &), step on R (ct 2), step L across R (ct 3), step R in place (ct 4).

No. 2: Turn CW on meas 3-4.

- 1 Hop on R (ct 1), step L to L (ct 2), step R in place (ct 3), hold (ct 4).
- 2 Step on L and make 1 full turn CW (ct 1), hold (ct 2), step on R making 1 full turn CW (ct 3), step L in place (ct 4).