

ŠTO MI E MILO  
(Macedonia)

"Što mi e milo" (shto mee eh MEE-lo) is the opening line of a very popular Macedonian song, found with varying texts and melodies all over that country. The dance itself is a variant of the so-called "Beranče" pattern, known especially in southern and western Macedonia, northern Greece, and Albania. Dick Crum learned the dance in Macedonia in 1954.

Record: Express 45, "Što mi e milo"

Rhythm: The dance melody is conventionally notated in 9/8 meter, with 4 dancer's beats in a quick-slow-quick-quick pattern:

1	2	3	4
J	J.	J	J
Q	S	Q	Q

Steps: Čukče: A movement in which you rise up off the heel just before a beat and come down onto the heel on that beat. It has been described as a hop in which you do not leave the ground.  
Hitch-hop: A grace-note-length preliminary hop on one foot before stepping onto the other. It is like the hop in a skipping step, but shorter. If you use the rhythm cue "ker-PLUNK", the hitch-hop occurs on the "ker" and the step onto the other ft takes place on "PLUNK".

Formation: Mixed line or open circle, hands joined either at shoulder level ("W" pos) or down at sides ("V" pos).

Meas

PATTERN

- 1 Čukče on L ft in place (ct 1). Turn to face slightly R and step in this direction with R ft (ct 2). Continuing in this direction, step L ft (ct 3). Continuing in this direction, step R ft (ct 4).
- 2 Continuing in this direction, step L ft (ct 1). Continuing in this direction, step R ft (ct 2). Turning to face ctr, step L ft slightly fwd (ct 3). Facing ctr, rock back onto R ft (ct 4).
- 3 Čukče on R ft in place (ct 1). Side step L with L ft (ct 2). Cross and rock fwd onto R ft in front of L ft (ct 3). Rock back onto L ft in place (ct 4).

NOTE: The above is the so-called "short" version of the dance. A longer version, containing 5 meas, is also done: it is the same as the above with the addition of:

- 4 Repeat action of meas 3 with opp ftwk.
- 5 Repeat action of meas 3.

The choice of versions is up to the leader; sometimes they are combined.