

VARI HASAPIKO
Greece

The contemporary form of the dance appears to have evolved in the seaport taverns of Greece within the past fifty years. It is done slowly and deliberately, with small precise steps, and depends for its effectiveness on a fluid synchronization with the leader. This dance has no sequence, consisting only of a basic step and variations. Variations are initiated by the leader and are limited only by his inventiveness. The lines must be short, the feet somewhat close together, and the bodies crouched slightly forward on the initial step.

METER: 4/4

FORMATION: Short lines of 4 to 6 dancers with hands on shoulders, leader on Right end of line.

Counts

BASIC STEP

1 Fwd onto L ft.
& Lightly touch R toe behind L ft, then start to bring R ft around in front
2 Bring R ft in front of L ankle
& Raise R ft and then bring R ft around behind L
3 Step on R ft behind L heel
& Raise L ft in front of R ankle
4 Step on L ft to L
& Touch R heel in front of L (across L instep)
5 Step on R to R
& Step on L crossing in front of R
6 Step slightly back on R ft
& Pull L ft back across R instep (slightly raise L knee)
7 Touch L heel in front of R ft (across R instep)
& Hold

The preceding completes the basic step. It may be repeated immediately as often as the leader wishes. (Sometimes, however, extra steps are added at this point, to complete the musical phrase of 2 measures.)

The music will determine the mood greatly, and the style will be affected by the music.