

Presented by Dick Crum

VELIKO KOLO  
Banat, Yugoslavia

Often called the most difficult kolo done in the United States, Veliko Kolo comes from the Banat region of Yugoslavia, and is indeed tricky by folk dance standards. The following directions are by necessity only approximate, and will be useful to those who have already been exposed to the dance.

RECORD: MH 1004 "Veliko Kolo"

FORMATION: Single circle, no partners. Hands on shoulders

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PATTERN

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Meas

- 1 Moving L, step L,R
- 2 Step L ft to L, touch R toe in front of L ft without wt
- 3 Step R ft to R, touch L toe in front of R ft without wt.
- 4 Hop in place (really a lift) on R ft, step onto L ft beside R ft (stress the HOP during this measure).
- 5 Quickly, hop in place on L ft, then step onto R ft beside L ft, then hop in place on R ft and step onto L ft in place (stress the STEP rather than the HOP in these two movements)
- 6 Step R,L,R in place, OR do a flat, small pas-de-basque R,L,R.

NOTE: Difficulty comes in Meas 4-5, since native dancers introduce a number of subtle, additional syncopations that are impossible to reduce to written description. Natives also do variations on the dance, the men taking more lively steps, while the women are more reserved. But no matter what the dancers are doing, the rhythm and bounces are all the same, in strict unison.