

## SÂRBA PE BĂTAIE

Romanian

PRONUNCIATION: SEUR-bah pay buh-TAI-yeh

TRANSLATION: Stamping sârba (literally, Serbian on stamps)

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Gordon Engler who collected the source material for this dance from the *Romanian Folk Ensemble* during the group's 1966 United States tour.

BACKGROUND: The "stamping sârba" is the basic sârba step, found in many parts of Romania. This one is from Braşov, the capital of Braşov Judetz (county) in Transylvania. The city is notable for being the birthplace of the national anthem of Romania. Germans living in Braşov were mainly involved in trade and crafts. The location of the city at the intersection of trade routes linking the Ottoman Empire and Western Europe, together with certain tax exemptions, allowed Saxon merchants to obtain considerable wealth and exert a strong political influence. Like many other cities in Transylvania, Braşov is also home for a significant ethnic Hungarian minority.

MUSIC: Woodlands (45rpm) W-6804  
Mendocino (45rpm) 104

FORMATION: Closed cir of mixed M and W with hands grasping neighbors' near shldr in "T" pos.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: When the leg is raised in front of the supporting leg, it starts fwd with extended knee and toe to about a 45-degree angle, and then the knee is bent without raising the ft any farther. The swd steps are danced with a straight-legged action, although the ankles are very flexible.

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MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

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### INTRODUCTION

None.

### I. SÂRBA

- 1 Step R swd (ct 1); raise extended L leg in front of R (ct &); step L swd (ct 2); raise extended R leg in front of L (ct &);
- 2 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &).
- 3 Step R swd (ct 2); raise extended L leg in front of R (ct &);  
Step L swd (ct 2); raise extended R leg in front of L (ct &);  
Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &).
- 4-15 Repeat action of meas 1-3 four more times
- 16 Repeat action of meas 1.

## II. BĂTAIE

- 1 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &);  
step R swd (ct 2); stamp L next to R without wt (ct &);
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1 to L with opp ftwk;
- 3 Repeat action of meas 1;
- 4 Step L swd (ct 1); stamp R next to L without wt (ct &); stamp R next to L without wt (ct 2); pause (ct &).
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 one more time.
- Repeat entire dance from beg.