

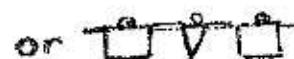
Dance

Briul Pe Opt or Briul Drapt
 The Briul in Eight The Briul to the Right

Briul (translated the Belt) is the name of a particular dance as well as the title of a large class of dances with many variants found in several folkloric zones of Romania. "Briul pe Opt" is a type which belongs to the Carpathian variety. Dances of this type are found in villages on the roads that shepherds follow each year as they move their flocks from the south Carpathians to the wide meadows of the Danube Plain and Dobrogea, therefore accounting for their Carpathian origin.

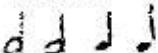
In the Danube zone the dance is done in a circle or semicircle, shoulder hold position. When difficult variations are done in the Briul it is a virtuosity dance. This form is done only by men but a simpler choreography (as this is) is danced by both men and women in a mixed semicircle. Briul from this region is formed either by linking heterogeneous phrases, or in utilizing the rondo. In this particular Briul phases consist of three motifs of 2/4.

The sequence as well as the number of repetitions of phrases is usually indicated by a command or shout, the dance proper is preceded by an introductory sequence (which is never repeated) whose movements are a principal motif of the dance Sirba.

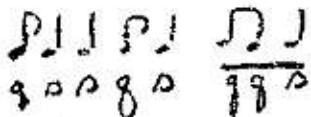
Position: Shoulder hold  or 

Formation: Semicircle

Music: 2/4 No musical introduction (q=quick; s=slow). This recording is cut down in length from the original due to lack of space. If it were longer it would be possible to do the introduction (Sirba) more times—the sequence or choreography presented here is one of the ways the dance is done.

Rhythm	Introduction (Sirba)	No. of times
	Facing center and moving sideways Step R-swing L, Step L-swing R, step L, Step R	2X plus Step R swing L, Step L swing R

Phrase I

	(Travelling) moves the circle in LOD Facing slightly to R (weight on L) Lift-step (virf-toe) L {q} step R {s}, Step L cross in front {s}, Step R {q} Step L {s}	2X
	*The ending motif - lift-left heel, (q) Step R (q), Step L (s)	

Phrase II ("sevens")

	This is done in place, feet parallel, knees slightly bent in plie. Lift L {q} Step R {q}, Step L {q}, Step R {q} Step L {q}, Step R {q}, Step L {s} plus *ending motif	4X
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The Chorus consists of a "coda" pattern done 2X } 1X
plus Travelling done 2X }

continued.-

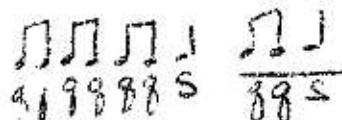


Coda - this is done in place - lift L (q)
Step R slow, Stamp L (q) Step L (q) Step R (q)
Step L slow plus *ending motif

Phrase II (crosses)

4X

This is the same rhythm and basically the same movement as "sevens" except there are crossing and "open" steps

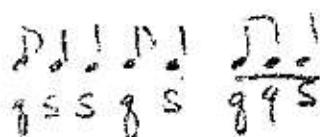


Lift L (q), cross R in front (c), Step L (q),
Step R to R (q), Step L (q), cross R in front (q)
Step L (s) plus *the ending motif

Chorus - (2X "coda" + 2X travelling)

1X

Phrase III (reel)



Lift L (q), Step R cross in back (s) Step L
cross in back (s), Step R cross in back (q)
Small displacement forward Step L plus *ending motif which also moves slightly forward

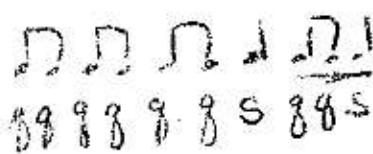
4X

Chorus - (2X coda + 2X travelling)

1X

Phrase IV (double crosses)

4X



Again this is the same rhythm and movements as "sevens" and "crosses"

Lift L (q), Step R cross in front (q) Step L (q)
Step open R (q) Step L cross in front (q)
Step R (q) Step L open (s) plus *ending motif
but this time the step R crosses in front.

1X

Phrase V (clicks)

4X



Moving to L lift L (q), click R to L (q)
Step L to L (q), click R to L (q), Step L to L (q)
Click R to L (q) Step L (s) plus ending motif

continued...

~ ~ ♂ ♂ or ♂ ♂

2/4

Sirba D\$ \$D DS | D\$ \$D DS | D\$ \$D

(Intro)

"Travel" 's D\$ d S 's d S | 2x

"Sevens" + 's d s d s d S 's d S | 4x

CHORUS

Coda: 's D' s d S 's d S | 2x PLUS

Travel 's D\$ d S 's d S | 2x

~~Crosses~~ 's d s d s d S 's d S | 4x

CHORUS

"Reel" 's t D\$ d ↑ S 's d S | 4x

CHORUS

"Doubles" 's d s d s d S 's d S | 4x

CHORUS or - go right into 2

"Clicks": 's d s d s d S 's d S | 4x

S or D =
leftD or d =
right's = heel
left
or right① cross in
front② cross in
back

s = stamp

s step L
heavy

3 plus

x heel
clickor foot
click

The dancers shout this rhyming verse—

Si la briu, la briu, la briu
Ca la secerat de griu
Uite briui trece briui

continued.

Si mîndruță potecuță
Si de briu și de curea
Si de (in)cîngătorea mea

And to the Briu, the Briu, the Briu (the dance)
Cut the wheat
Look at the Briu as it passes by the river
And the girls on the path
And the Briu and from the strap
And from my sash extwining—