

# Darozhka

(Russia)

Choreographed and presented by Hennie Konings at Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2006, it is based on folk dance movements from the repertoire of the Cossaks of southern Russia. The song is a marching song. The name translates as “small road”, a word from the title and first line of the song: *Proljegala stepj-dorozhka* (“The small road over the steppe”).

**Pronunciation:** dah-ROHSH-kah

**Music:** Russian Dances by Hennie Konings, Stockton 2006 or  
Camp Hess Kramer 2007 CD

2/4 meter

**Formation:** Closed or open circle. Hands joined down for introduction and ending. Individual otherwise.

**Steps and styling:** Strong and masculine. It's a Russian men's dance.

Meas

## Introduction

- 1-4 8 steps LOD, begin R (omitted—i.e. no action—first time)
- 5 face and move towards center R L
- 6 continue twds center: R (1); stamp (scuff) L fwd, step L fwd with bent knee bringing arms slightly fwd; hold (&4)
- 7-8 moving bkws and away from center, brings arms back down, step R L R L turning CCW to face out on last step
- 9 continue turning  $\frac{3}{4}$  turn to end facing LOD with R L
- 10-18 repeat measures 1-9, except on last beat of meas 9, bring arms up, left arm extended horizontally towards center and right arm, elbow bent, across chest

## Part 1

- 1 Facing LOD, R fwd onto heel with straight leg, fall onto L next to R (1&); stamp with weight R (bent knee) fwd, scuff/stamp L fwd (2&). Arms: from last beat of Introduction, arms move down (1&); arms move out and up ending horizontal with right arm extended outward and left forearm arm extended outward across chest (left elbow bent, hands fisted).
- 2 Repeat previous meas, with opposite footwork and arms
- 3-6 Repeat previous two meas two more times
- 7 Repeat meas 1
- 8 Turning to face center, stamp with weight: L R (1. 2); Arms: on second beat bring left arm back with fist in small of back, right arm across chest, palm up

## Part 2

- 1 Facing center, Heavy step in place sinking and bending left knee, step sideways in LOD and pushing up on R (1&); repeat previous beat (2&); right arm moves horizontal, palm up outward from elbow
- 2 Repeat ftwk of previous meas; right arm continues moving outward until it is extended horizontally to side, palm up

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- 3-4 Repeat meas exactly except right arm now moves back, palm down, to starting position at beginning of Part 2.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 except on meas 8 turn to face LOD with LRL (1&2) bringing left arm up and extended horizontally in and right arm across chest, right elbow bent; hands are fisted (starting position for Part 3)

Meas

**Part 3**

- 1 Moving and facing LOD, and turning to face slightly out, step RL (!&),  
Twisting slightly to face out, stamp R, turning to face and move LOD, step R (2&);  
Arms gradually move horizontally forward from starting position.
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and arms. Arms move horizontally (not down and up)  
ending on beat 2 with right arm and left forearm extended out and left elbow pointed in  
(opposite of beat 2 of meas 1). Then, on “&” of beat 2 arms circle up and in
- 3 Still facing LOD, stamp/scuff R fwd, continuing to circle arms (down at this point), step  
R fwd, arms end with right arm extended out and left forearm parallel and across chest  
(1&); stamp/scuff fwd with L, step fwd with straight leg onto L heel, arms swing down  
ending extended in and across chest (opp dir as in previous beat) (2&),
- 4 Take weight on full left foot, bending left knee, fully extending arms inward (1); repeat  
the previous beat and a half, all with opp ftwk and arms but still moving LOD (&2&)
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and arms
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8

**Repeat Parts 1, 2, and 3**

**Repeat Introduction** On the last beat turn to face center and fudge by taking an extra step leaving L free

**Ending** Still maintaining held hands, move sideways (LOD) with ftwk of Part 2, but with progressively smaller and softer steps (fading), ending with a soft LRL (1&2) on the eighth meas. Music will have already ended.

Dance Notes by Gary Diggs based on Hennie’s notes (but with my mistakes)

Presented by Gary and Jane Diggs  
Camp Hess Kramer Institute  
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