

NATALIJINO KOLO
Record FOLK DANCER MH 1001
Serbian dance from Yugoslavia

Natalijino Kolo

ALSO KNOWN AS "NATALIA"

Named for Queen Natali of Serbia who reigned in the 19th century. Dick Crum says that it was composed in her honor by a Belgrade dancing master. The Folat orchestra says that Queen Natalie in passing through a village was so entranced watching the peasants do the dance she stepped down from her royal carriage and joined the circle. In deference to the Queen, the peasants simplified the steps to make her feel at ease.

Thus the dance can be done "nobility" style quite elegant and devoid of fancy steps, or in peasant fashion with all of the flash and dash of the kolo steps.

FORMATION: Broken circle, no partners, hands joined low, all facing center.

PART 1: (Nobility style). Walk to the Right with short brisk steps 7 steps and on the 8th step, touch Left toe to Right foot. Now walk to the Left 7 steps and finish with a touch of the Right foot to Left foot on 8th count.

PART 2: In place, facing center, step to Right on right, step L foot to Right. Step to Right on Right foot, and touch Left foot without weight next to R. Step to Left on Left, step Right to Left. Step to Left on Left, and touch Right foot to Left.

Repeat Part 2 3 more times.

PART 1 (PEASANT STYLE) Instead of walking as above, take four "two-steps" to the Right (step-together-step) starting on Right foot. Do four "two-steps" to the Left starting on Left foot.

Variation: Take two "two-steps" then step to Right on Right foot. Place Left behind Right, Step to Right on Right foot and touch Left toe in a point to Left. Take two "two-steps" to the Left starting on Left foot. Place Left to Left, Step on Right behind Left. Step on Left to Left and Point Right toe to Right.

PART 2 (PEASANT STYLE) Do the basic kolo steps as described in the accompanying Basic Kolo sheet for 8 measures.

Repeat the entire dance over and over again, alternating the various versions at the whim of the Kolo circle leader. Remember that even in the walking steps of the nobility version there is a considerable bounce and shake.

Natalijino Kolo is a great favorite with both natives and the American folk dancer and is considered a "standard" at Kolo jamborees. With beginners the version without the "basic Kolo step" can be readily used.

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