

Četvorno Horo (Bulgaria)

Yves Moreau learned Četvorno Horo (chet-VOHR-noh hoh-ROH) in the village of Bistrice, Sofia district, in the summer of 1966. This line dance is done only in the Shope area of Bulgaria. Mr. Moreau has taught the dance throughout the United States. These notes are based on his presentation in Chicago in 1969.

RECORD: Folk Dancer MH 45x3058A "Četvorno Shopsko Horo"; 7/8 meter
XOPO ZLP 4; Slavjani LP 1000 or LP-B-4000 "Folklore Dances of Bulgaria";
any other Četvorno Horo melody. All these records should be slowed down.

RHYTHM: 7/8 meter: 1-2-3, 1-2, 1-2 counted as 1,2,3 (S,Q,Q).

FORMATION: It is preferred that M and W be in separate lines to emphasize the respective styling. The dance may also be done in short mixed lines. Belt hold is used with L arm over neighbor's R arm.

STEPS: Bicycle R: Step on R ft (ct 1); hop on R while raising L knee fwd and up (ct 2); light stamp with L, no wt unless specified (ct 3). This L lower leg action should be a smooth, continuous movement with the leg kept in front of the body. Bicycle L begins with a step on L ft (ct 1).

Twizzle R: Step on R slightly to R while raising L heel and twisting it sharply to the R in a clearly defined movement (ct 1); step on L to L (ct 2); step on R behind L (ct 3). Twizzle L begins with a step on the L (ct 1).

STYLING: Shope dances are somewhat "heavy" in character, but the torso is erect most of the time. All movements are sharp and firm. Knee action is high, especially for the M. Shouts often accompany the footwork.

MUSIC	7/8 meter	PATTERN
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Measures

16 meas INTRODUCTION No action. Beg with vocal.

I. BASIC

1 With wt on L, facing slightly R of ctr, step fwd on R in LOD (CCW) (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2); step fwd on L in LOD (ct 3).

2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.

4 Turn to face ctr and Bicycle R.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.

II. TWIZZLE AND SCISSORS

1-3 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-3 (Basic).

4 Face ctr and Twizzle R (cts 1,2,3).

- 5 Bicycle L (cts 1,2,3).
- 6 Step on R beside L (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2); step on L in place while extending R ft fwd close to floor preparing for the next step (ct 3).
- 7 Scissors: Step on R beside L while extending L ft fwd close to floor (ct 1); step on L beside R while extending R ft fwd close to floor (ct 2); step on R beside L while extending L ft fwd close to floor (ct 3).
- 8 Bicycle L.

III. LEFT TWIZZLE AND PAS DE BASQUE

- 1-4 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-4 (Basic plus Twizzle R).
- 5 Face slightly L of ctr and moving in RLOD (CW), step fwd on L (ct 1); hop on L (ct 2); step fwd on R (ct 3).
- 6 Twizzle L.
- 7 Pas de basque: Facing ctr, step on R to R (ct 1); step on ball of L in front of R (ct 2); step on R in place (ct 3).
- 8 Bicycle L.

IV. TWIZZLE AND BICYCLES

- 1-4 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-4 (Basic plus Twizzle R).
- 5 Keeping knees close together throughout, leap onto L turning body and knees to face RLOD (ct 1); leap onto R turning body and knee to face LOD (ct 2); step on L turning body to face RLOD (ct 3). These actions should be done very sharply with especially high leaps by the M.
- 6 Bicycle R, but take wt on L on ct 3.
- 7-8 Bicycle R (meas 7). Bicycle L (meas 8).

V. HEEL TOUCHES

- 1-4 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-4 (Basic plus Twizzle R).
- 5 Facing ctr, step fwd on L (ct 1); hop on L, bringing R leg up, knee bent and turned to R (ct 2); touch R heel to R side, leg straight (ct 3).
- 6 Touch R heel to floor but more twd ctr (ct 1); leap fwd onto R bringing L leg up, knee bent and turned to L (ct 2); touch L heel to L, leg straight (ct 3).
- 7 Touch L heel to floor but more twd ctr (ct 1); leap fwd onto L ft bringing R ft up behind L calf (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 8 Leap bkwd onto R ft (ct 1); with ft together, bounce twice (cts 2,3).

DANCE SEQUENCE: Dance each Fig twice and then repeat from beginning as many times as music allows.