

EL JARABE TAPATIO  
el hah-RAH-beh tah-pah-TEE-oh

MUSIC 6/8, 2/4, and 3/4 time. Record: RCA Victor 75-8032, or Musart D90 LP.

FORMATION Partners facing each other in two lines.

Meas. Cts

FIGURE I

- 1-7. Do 7 Jarabe steps fwd to meet partner with R shoulders.  
8 Stamp R ft in place.  
9-16 Repeat Meas. 1-8 across to partner's original position, turning to the R to face partner.

FIGURE II

- 1-7 Do 7 Jarabe steps fwd to meet partner with R shoulders. Stamp  
8 Stamp R ft in place.  
9-16 Repeat Meas. 1-8 back to original position.

FIGURE III

- 1-7 Do 7 Jarabe steps across to finish in partner's place, turning to face partner.  
8 Stamp R ft in place.

FIGURE LV (3/4 time)

- 1 Take 3 running steps toward partner, starting with L ft.  
2 Pivot to L by swinging R ft across L ft, ending with weight on L ft, having made a complete turn passing R shoulders.  
3-4 Repeat Meas. 1-2 to partner's place, turning to face partner.  
5 Make a full turn to the R with 3 steps, starting with R ft.  
6 Stamp L ft in place.  
7 Make a full turn to the L with 3 steps, starting with L ft.  
8 Stamp R ft in place.  
9-12 Repeat Meas. 5-8.  
13-24 Repeat Meas. 1-12.

FIGURE V Borrachito (Drunken) step. (3/4 time)

- 1 1 Fall on R ft slightly fwd.  
2 Cross L ft behind R ft.  
3 Step R on R ft.  
2 Repeat Meas. 1 to the L with opposite footwork.  
3-6 Repeat Meas. 1-2 twice while exchanging places with Partner, passing R shoulders and turning to the R to face partner.  
7 1 Rock fwd on R ft, keeping L ft in back of R ft.  
2 Rock backward on L ft.  
3 Rock fwd on R ft.  
8 Repeat Meas. 7, reversing direction and footwork.  
9-16 Repeat Meas. 1-8 back to place, ending up facing partner.

FIGURE VI

- 1-16 Repeat the movements of Figure I, using Hojas de te steps instead of Jarabe steps.

FIGURE VII (2/4 time)

- 1-2 Take 3 running steps toward partner as in Figure IV, beginning pivot on ct. 2 of Meas. 2.  
3-4 Pivot to L as in Figure IV.

*Continued...*

# El Jarabe Tapatio, Continued

- 5-6 Do 4 flat-pushes back to place, circling R around partner.  
Do the flat-push as follows:
- 1 Moving to the R, push with the L ft and step on the R ft.  
& Close L ft to R ft.
- 7-12 Repeat Meas. 1-6.  
During Meas. 9-12 the charro drops his sombrero at the girl's feet. Both dance around the sombrero to the R.  
FIGURE VIII (2/4 time)
- 1-8 Couple does 8 pas de basques around the sombrero, starting with R ft on ct. 2 of the preceding measure.
- 9-16 Couples does 8 rocking steps as in Figure V, only taking two steps (R ft, L ft) instead of three steps for each measure, and starting on ct. 2 of the preceding measure.
- 17-18 While china goes down on R knee and picks up sombrero, charro swings his R leg over her head, crossing his R ft across his L ft, making an elaborate pivot to the L. China then rises with sombrero on her head.  
FIGURE IX The Diana
- 1-2 Holding inside hands and starting with R ft, couple takes 4 skipping reel steps fwd. (Step R in front of L, hop, etc).
- 3-4 Couple takes 4 skipping reel steps backward.
- 5-8 Repeat Meas. 1-4.
- 9 1 Hop on L ft, touching R heel diagonally forward.  
2 Hop on L ft, touching R toe in front of L ft.
- 10 1 Repeat Meas. 9, ct. 1.  
2 Land on both ft in place.
- 11-12 Repeat Meas. 9-10 with opposite footwork.
- 13-16 Repeat Meas. 9-12.
- 17-22 Repeat Meas. 1-6
- 23 Couple takes 2 skipping reel steps backward.
- 24 Charro kneels on L knee, extending R hand to the china, after having turned her to the L under his arm. She then puts her L ft on his R knee and places her L hand in his R hand.

Notes: This famous Mexican folk dance is commonly referred to as "The Mexican Hat Dance" because the lady dances on the brim of her partner's sombrero, a wide brimmed Mexican hat. People who live on the outskirts of Guadalajara, capital of the State of Jalisco, are called Tapatíos. The dance was developed in this region. In 1920, by proclamation of the Federal Government, Jarabe Tapatio became the national dance of Mexico.

The male dancer is called the charro, the Mexican horseman; the lady is known as the china because she wears the costume of the china poblana. The charro woos his china in the steps of the dance. Toward the end of the dance, he throws his sombrero at her feet for her to dance on. He knows he has been accepted when she picks up his hat and places it on her own head. She then dances with him the Diana, the last step, which means, "Congratulations to the charro for winning his china! May they live happily ever after".