

Judin Polka

Zagorje, Croatia

This lively couple dance is from region of Zagorje, located in northwestern part of Croatia. According to the legends told by old villagers of Marija Bistrica, Gypsy musicians from around the town of Varaždin played Judin Polka. Local villagers took the dance and music back to their own villages, where is still danced at weddings and holiday festivities.

Željko Jergan has been researching this region since 1979 and continues through the present day.

TRANSLATION: Jewish Polka

PRONUNCIATION: YU-deen POHL-kah

CD: "Sviraj svirče drmeša," by Skitnice, track 4

FORMATION: Cpls face LOD (CCW) with W on M R side. Inside hands are joined in V-pos; M outside hand low on hip (fingers fwd), W on waist (fingers fwd).

POSITIONS: Shldr - shldr-blade: M hands on W shldr blades, W hands on top of M shldrs. Arm are rounded and raised almost parallel to floor. R hips face.

Modified open pos: Cpls side by side facing fwd, with W on M R side. M R arm on W R shldr, W L arm on M L waist.

HANDS: When hands are free, M hands are low on hip (fingers fwd), W on waist (fingers fwd).

Use same ftwk unless noted.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 4 meas, no action

A **FIG. I: MOVE IN LOD & RLOD**

1-4 Beg L, do 4 step-hops (skips) fwd in LOD (CCW).

5-8 Beg L, do 4 step-hops (skips) turning ½ CW in place (M fwd, W bkwd). W is now on inside of circle.

9-12 Facing RLOD - beg L, do 4 step-hops fwd in RLOD (CW).

13-15 Beg L, do 4 step-hops - turn ¾ CW in place (M bkwd, W fwd). End facing ctr.

16 M do 1 step R-hop in place.

W stepping R,L,R - move in front of M (cts 1-&-2). Cpls end facing with W back to ctr and join in shldr - shldr-waist pos.

B **FIG. II:**

- 1 In shldr - shldr-waist pos - step L-hop - cpls beg to rotate CW - bodies twist slightly CW.
- 2 Step R-hop - bodies twist slight L (CCW). Cpls continue to rotate CW.
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, completing 1 turn CW. End with M facing ctr and W facing M.

- 9-10 Moving twd ctr - beg M L and W R, do 4 light running steps twd ctr (M fwd, W bkwd) (cts 1-2-1); M step R in place, W L in place (ct 2).
Arm style: As M step fwd on L, the upper body tips slightly sdwd R. W tips in opp direction.
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10, (M bkwd, W fwd) moving twd outside of circle. W end with wt on R.

- 13-16 Beg L, do 8 pivot steps in place - turning 2-1/2 times CW in place. Shldr tips slightly as in meas 9-12. On last meas, cpls end with back to ctr and join in modified open pos. W end on M R side with wt on L.

C **FIG. III:**

- 1 Moving fwd away from ctr - M step L,R, (W-RL) fwd (cts 1-2).
- 2 Jump fwd onto both ft (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 3-4 With M stepping R,L,R (W-LRL) - releasing arm pos, turn 1/2 in twd ptr (M-CW, W-CCW) (cts 1-2-1); jump on both ft (ct 2). Release and rejoin in modified open pos. End facing ctr.

- 5-6 Moving twd ctr - repeat meas 1-2. (Run-run-jump-hold)
- 7-8 With M stepping R,L,R (W-LRL) - turn 1/2 away from ptr (M-CW, W-CCW) (cts 1-2-1); jump on both ft in place (ct 2). Release and rejoin in open pos.

- 9-10 Repeat meas 1-2, moving twd ctr. (Run-run-jump-hold)
- 11-12 With M stepping R,L,R (W-LRL) - turn 1/2 in twd ptr (M-CCW, W-CW) (cts 1-2-1); jump on both ft (ct 2).

- 13-16 Moving away from ctr - repeat meas 1-4, except turn 3/4 and end facing ptr.

REPEAT FIG. II-III

**** Repeat dance from beg one more time.**

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Dance notes by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw 3-02

Presented by Željko Jergan

