

Karşılama  
(Western Turkey)

This is a Roma dance from western Turkey. It can be danced in groups, as couples or solo performance.

Pronunciation: Car-she-la-mah

Group formation: Open circle, facing ctr, moving CCW, hands in V pose.

METER: 9/8

Notes:

1. Different formations are possible: Two people can perform as a couple or one person can improvise a solo performance. In a group, the lead person may deliver turns and squats, and highlight hip and belly movements if relevant.
2. Ct 4 refers to ct & during which the dancer opens up possibilities for improvisation. It is the moment of flexibility and accentuation in the pattern.

PATTERN

Meas 1

PART 1 (Group pattern in an open circle)

1. R opens to the right side  
Arms swing back
2. L cross back behind R  
Arms swing fwd
3. R opens to the right side  
Arms swing back
4. Skip step on R (**ct &**)
5. L step fwd diagonal on the R side  
Arms swing fwd

Group repeats the sequence

Meas 2

PART 2 (Couple perform variations of the following)

Introduction: Two dancers pose across each other.

Each lifts their arms in W pose, facing to each other.

1. R heel fwd and pose  
R shoulder slides back as L shoulder goes fwd  
Knees straight (not bent)
2. Keep the fwd pose on the R foot  
L shoulder slides back as R shoulder goes fwd
3. R steps back (further behind the L foot) and R knee bent  
R shoulder slides back as L shoulder goes fwd

4. Hop step on R (body weight on the R foot) as slightly lifting the L foot to carry... **(ct&)**
5. ...Place the L foot slightly fwd diagonal to L  
L shoulder slides back and R shoulder comes fwd  
Hands may execute a slow tempo 360-degree turn at wrists in cts 4 and 5.