

KASTRINO-PEDEKHTO Crete

The name refers to the leaping character of the dance, from the Greek word pedo, which means to leap, hop, jump. It is also known by several other names, all of which refer to the area of its popularity: Herakleiotiko Pedikhto, which indicates the city and province of Herakleion; Malevyziotiko Pedikhto, referring to the district of Malevyzi near the city of Herakleion; and Kastrino Pedkhto, Kastro being the former Veneto-Cretan name for the city of Herakleion.

This Pedkhto, although danced in a somewhat circular formation, moves diagonally right into the circle and almost straight back. It is this diagonal direction as the dancers move in and out that gives it its slow progressive movement to the right. In some areas of Crete, however, it is performed almost in place with only slight movement to the right.

Records: Folkraft 1463, Greek Dances and How to Do Them Phillios
940 Record 3 Side 4-1

Starting Position: "W" position. Right foot free.
Line dance, no partners.



Pattern

Measure

- 1 Step on ball of R foot, bending knee slightly (drop) (count 1). Two small quick steps (Left, Right) raising slightly on balls of feet (counts 2-and).
- 2 Step on ball of L foot, bending knee slightly (drop) (count 1). Two small quick steps (Right, Left) raising slightly on balls of feet (counts 2-and).
- 3 Step-hop (right) forward on ball of foot, bending knee slightly and swinging left foot across in back (or front) on the hop. (counts one-two).
- 4-6 Repeat above pattern reversing footwork and backing out and slightly to the left.

