

KHOSH BILEZIG
(Armenia)

KHOSH BILEZIG is a popular men's dance from the province of Garin (Erzerum). This dance was done by Armenians, Kurds and Turks, usually to the wail of the zourna and davoul. KHOSH BILEZIG ("Pretty Bracelet" in Turkish) refers to the dancers forming the links of the bracelet. The dance and melody were widespread throughout the province, and a number of variant versions of both existed in different parts of the region.

Pronunciation:

Source: Hourig Sahagian, Mark Kyrkostas, Margaret T. Kyrkostas, Arsen Anoushian, Arevelois Kasparian, Araxi Tepikian, Hasmig Aroian, John and Felice Yervant.

Music: Traditional Armenian Dances Vol. 1 - FACONE 1001 2/4 meter

Style: A man's dance; carriage is erect and proud; movements are strong and smooth.

Formation: Open circle or line of dancers, grasping the shldrs of the dancers on both sides. Arms should be kept straight. The leader may wave a handkerchief with his free hand.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>Cts</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
<u>I. BASIC</u>		
1	1-2	Facing ctr, step on L in place (ct 1); raise/kick R in front of L (ct 2).
2	3-4	Walking to the R, step on R to R (ct 3); step on L across R (ct 4).
3	5-6	Step on R to R (ct 5); lift L beside R with L ft beside and behind R knee (ct 6).
4	7-8	Strike L heel fwd on floor (ct 7); strike L heel again (ct 8).
<u>II. TURN</u>		
1	1-2	Facing ctr, step on L in place (ct 1); raise/kick R in front of L (ct 2).
2-3	3-6	Release shldr hold and turn 360 to the R (CW) while walking to the R with 3 steps: Step on R to R to beg turn (ct 3); step on L to R, continuing to turn (ct 4); step on R to R as turn is completed (ct 5); lift L beside R with L ft beside and behind R knee (ct 6).
4	7-8	Strike L heel on floor in front <u>once</u> very sharply while clapping hands once in front of chest (ct 7); hold pose (ct 8).