

Kojčovata (Bulgaria)

Kojčovata (KOY-tchoh-vah-tah), Kojčo's Dance, from Veliko Târnovo in North Bulgaria, is of the family "Dajčovo". Yves Moreau learned it from Ivan Donkov in 1979 and taught it at the Statewide Institute of the California Folk Dance Federation on May 25, 1996. Similar versions have also been taught by Jaap Leegwater and Bianca de Jong.

Cassettes: Yves Moreau: BMA-002, Side A/4; Michael Ginsburg: Zlatne Uste (Rounder C 6054), Side A/5.

Rhythm: 9/8 meter = 2+2+2+3, counted here as 1,2,3,4 or Quick, Quick, Quick, Slow. Count 1 is accented, even though ct 4 is longer. Resist the urge to step heavily on ct 4.

Formation: Open circle or line, hands joined down in V-pos. Face ctr, wt on L.

Steps and Styling: Dajčovo Step (in place): Hop on L, raising R leg high with knee bent (ct 1); in place, step R, L, R (cts 2,3,4). Ftwk alternates.

Dajčovo Step (travelling): Hop on L, raising R leg with knee slightly bent in anticipation of movement (ct 1); step on R in desired direction (ct 2); step on L near, but not beyond, R (ct 3); step on R in desired direction (ct 4). Ftwk alternates.

Hands: Swing joined hands fwd, elbows straight (ct 1); swing hands bkwd (cts 2,3); start to swing hands fwd (ct 4).

Steps are quick and light; movements are strong.

Measures	9/8 meter	PATTERN
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8 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. DAJČOVO

1-8 Facing ctr with weight initially on L ft, dance eight Dajčovo Steps in place.

II. LULAJ (wave)

1-4 Dance four Dajčovo Steps moving in a CW circle: face and move twd ctr (meas 1), face to R of ctr and move in LOD (meas 2); face ctr and move bkwd (meas 3), face slightly L of ctr and move in RLOD (meas 4). End in starting position or slightly to the R of it. Swing hands as described.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

III. KOJČOVQ (sideways)

- 1 Facing ctr and swinging joined hands, hop on L (ct 1); dance a large step on R to R (ct 2); step on beside R (ct 3); dance a large step on R to R (ct 4).
- 2 Swinging joined hands, step on L beside R (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2); repeat cts 1,2 (cts 3,4).
- 3 Hop on R, bending L leg and thrusting L sharply fwd twd floor, as arms come up to W-pos (ct 1); swing L leg in a CCW arc (ct 2); hop on R (ct 3); step on L behind R (ct 4).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

IV. HALF CIRCLE (wave) AND MOVE BACKWARD

- 1-2 Continuing to face ctr and swinging joined hands, repeat Fig.II, meas 1-2.
- 3 Facing ctr, hop on L (ct 1); step on R behind L (ct 2); repeat cts 1,2 with opp ftwk (cts 3,4).
- 4 Repeat meas 3.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

V. TRAVELLING

- 1-2 Facing and travelling in LOD, dance two Dajčovo Steps.
- 3 Hop on L, bending R leg and thrusting R sharply fwd twd floor, as arms come up to W-pos (ct 1); swing R leg in a CW arc (ct 2); hop on L (ct 3); step on R behind L (ct 4).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, travelling in RLOD with ftwk unchanged.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written twice.