

KOPACKA  
(Macedonia)

Kopacka symbolizes how the men work on the farm. It is the most popular dance from eastern Macedonia and reflects "village" style in steps and techniques. Originally it was a dance for men only and was widely used by exhibition groups. The dance is from the Delcevo-Berovo district. It was originally taught by Atanas Kolarovski when Tanec, the Macedonian State Folk Ensemble, toured the United States in 1956.

Pronunciation:

Record: AK 008

2/4 meter

Formation: Lines of M; belt hold, L arm over R. Last dancer may tuck thumb in own belt or hold hand behind back. Leader carries handkerchief in R hand.

Style: Posture erect, proud carriage. All steps are done precisely.

Meas

Pattern

- I. (Danced to "Dimna Juda Mamo")
- |     |   |              |
|-----|---|--------------|
| 1-2 | Facing slightly R, walk R,L,R,L.                                    |              |
| 3   | Face ctr, step R in place (ct 1); lift L fwd (ct 2).                | 3 step       |
| 4-5 | Repeat meas 3, alternating ftwk.                                    | ) lifts      |
| 6   | Facing slightly L, walk L,R (cts 1,2).                              | )            |
| 7   | Walk L (ct 1); step R behind L, body faces ctr (ct 2).              | Grapevin     |
| 8   | Step L in place (ct 1); lift R fwd (ct 2).                          | 2 step lifts |
| 9   | Repeat meas 8 with opp ftwk.  | )            |
| 10  | Step L fwd twd ctr (ct 1); lift R close in front of L ankle (ct 2). |              |
- Repeat meas 1-10 to end of slow music.

- II. (Fast "Kopacka" step danced to "Derviško Viško Mome")
- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1    | Hop on L (ct 1); step R to R (ct &); step L next to R (ct 2).                              |
| 2    | Repeat meas 1.   |
| 3    | Step R in place, extend L fwd low to floor (ct 1); repeat ct 1 alternating ftwk (cts &,2). |
| 4-5  | Repeat meas 3, twice, alternating ftwk (9 scissors in all).                                |
| 6-7  | Repeat meas 1-2 to L, opp ftwk.  |
| 8-10 | Repeat meas 3-5 (scissors) moving to L, then fwd, making a semi-circle moving twd R.       |

Repeat Fig II until leader calls change, except during meas 1-2, use hop-step-steps to return to original pos.

III.

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1-4 | Repeat meas 1-4, Fig I (4 walks, 2 step-lifts).  |
| 5   | Small leap onto R, extend L out sharply to L side (ct 1); swing L across R and bounce on R (ct 2). |
| 6-7 | Repeat meas 1-2, Fig I (4 walks), with opp ftwk.   |
| 8   | Face ctr, small leap onto L in place (ct 1); lift R fwd (ct 2).                                    |
| 9   | Step R,L in place (cts 1,&); step R fwd (ct 2).  |
| 10  | Hop on R (ct 1); swing L out to L and around (ct &); step L across R (ct 2).                       |

KOPAČKA (continued)

11-20 Repeat meas 1-10.

IV.

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig I (4 walks).
- 3-4 Jump on both ft to face ctr on ct 1 of meas 3 and hold.
- 5 Leap onto R in place and swing L out sharply to L (ct 1); swing L across R (ct 2).
- 6 Touch L toe to L, heel turned out (ct 1); raise L behind R calf, with slight lift on R (ct 2).
- 7 Step L bkwd with twist (ct 1); step R bkwd with twist (ct 2).
- 8 Step L in place (ct 1); lift R fwd (ct 2).
- 9 Moving slightly fwd step R,L,R (cts 1,&,2).
- 10 Hop on R in place (ct 1); swing L across R (ct &); step L across R in LOD and face slightly R (ct 2).
- 11-20 Repeat meas 1-10.

V.

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig I (4 walks)
- 3 Jump on both ft to face ctr (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 4-8 Repeat meas 5-9, Fig IV.
- 9 Bicycle: hop on R, circle L fwd, up, bkwd and down.
- 10 Repeat bicycle, ending with step L.
- 11-20 Repeat meas 1-10.

This description meant as refresher notes only, for use after having learned the dance from a qualified instructor. Proper styling must be learned in person as it cannot be described adequately in writing.

Dance notes by R & S Committee, Folk Dance  
Federation of California (South).  
Edited to fit syllabus format

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