

KOTSARI  
(Greece)

Kotsari, one of the most popular and energetic dances of the people of Pontos, derives its name from the name "Kots" which means heel. It is a characteristic of the dance that it is danced largely on the heels. It is danced mainly in the province of Trapezounda.

Pronunciation: KOHT-sah-ree

Record: Pontic Dances - Dances of the Pontic Greeks.  
#PD-1234 33-1/3 EP Side A/1. 2/4 meter.

Meter: Counted here as 4/4 for the sake of simplicity (1,2,3,4) instead of 1,&,2,&.

Formation: Short lines; shldr hold ("T" pos).

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION - Begin when leader desires.

BASIC STEP

- 1 Step on L in place (ct 1); hop on L, touching R heel next to L (ct 2); step on R beside L (ct &); step on L in place (ct 3); hop on L (ct 4).
- 2 Step on R in place (ct 1); step on L in place (ct 2); step on R in place (ct 3); hop on R (ct 4).

VARIATION I. Jump, pause.

- 1 Repeat Basic Step meas 1, cts 1-3; hop on L turning to face slightly L of ctr and extending R to R side in air (ct 4).
- 2 Leap onto R, displacing L bkwd (ct 1); leap onto L, displacing R fwd (ct 2); jump onto both ft, facing ctr (ct 3); hold (ct 4, meas 3 cts 1,2).
- 3 Step on L (ct 3); hop on L (ct 4).
- 4 Repeat Basic Step, meas 2.

VARIATION II. Three jumps

- 1 Repeat Variation I, cts 1-4.
- 2 Facing L of ctr jump onto both ft in stride pos (ct 1); jump again (ct 2); turning to face ctr, jump onto R, bringing L leg around in front (ct 3); hop on R (ct 4).
- 3 Touch L heel to just below R knee (ct 1); extend L ft (ct 2); step on L next to R (ct 3); hop on L (ct 4).
- 4 Repeat Basic Step, meas 2.

VARIATION III. Scissors and slaps.

- 1 Repeat Variation II, cts 1-4.
- 2 Leap onto R, displacing L bkwd (ct 1); leap onto L, displacing R fwd (ct 2); swing R in an arc to face ctr and leap onto it, L leg following (scissors) (ct 3); slap L in front of R (ct 4).
- 3 Slap L two more times (cts 1,2); step-hop on L (cts 3,4).
- 4 Repeat Basic Step, meas 2.

Leader determines the number of times each pattern is danced.

The description was rewritten when it was apparent that the material in the syllabus was not what was being taught.

Presented by Nikos Savvidis

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