

Memede

(South Serbia)

Source: First observed in 1966 at the "Beogradski Sabor" in Belgrade when performed by a group from Kosovo. There are a number of variants to Memede; this particular version is from the South Serbian village of Koretište near Gnilane in Kosovo and was observed there in 1972 by Steve Kotansky and Bob Liebman.

Pronunciation: MEH-me-deh

Formation: Separate lines of men and women with leader on Right. Men using "T" (shoulder) hold and women using "W" (hand joined at shoulder height) hold.

Rhythm: 7/8 counted 1-2 3-4 5 6-7
 1 2 3 4
 S S Q S

Record: Any Serbian or Macedonian Brass Band or accordion music called "Memede" will probably work.

"Tri Puta Mi Chukna" (Memede), Side 1, Band 6 Orkestar Ekrema Mamutovica,
 Diskoton LP 8069.
 Memede - Folklore Dances of Yugoslavia - WT-LP-64-701 -Medo Chune Ensemble
 Statewide 2002 – Gold Country Festival CD

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Ct.</u>	
1	1	Facing slightly right (CCW) wt on LF
	1	chukche* on LF while lifting free RF out to R side.
	2	Step fwd (CCW) onto RF.
	3	Step onto ball of LF bring it up to, but slightly behind, RF.
	4	Small step fwd onto RF as LF begins to lift to L side.
2		Repeat pattern Meas 1., but with opposite footwork.
3-4		Repeat pattern of Meas 1-2.
5	1	Turning to face center, chukche* on LF while lifting free RF in front R-knee bent.
	2	Step in place onto RF.
	3	chukche* on RF while lifting free LF in front L-knee bent.
	4	Flexing R-knee, touch ball of LF briefly in front of RF.
6	1	chukche* on RF while lifting free LF in front L-knee bent.
	2	Small step backwards onto LF.
	3	Small step backwards onto ball or RF.
	4	Small step forwards onto LF.
7-8		Repeat pattern Meas 5-6, however, to face R (CCW) on last two counts of Meas 8.

Notes: Variants of this dance that I have observed include a 6 measure version (rather than the 8 measure version presented here) and one where the lift of the free foot is more forward than out to the side on Meas. 1-4.

chukche* - a hop where the hopping foot doesn't leave the ground, a bounce.

Presented by Larry Weiner
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