

# Momačko Kolo

Bačka, Yugoslavia

The Bunjevci are ethnic Croats in the area of Zrmanja, around Velebit, (all in Croatia) and in northern Bačka on both sides of the Yugoslav-Hungarian border. According to Linguistic characteristics, the Bunjevci lived originally along the Dinaric range and in the northern part of Svilaja. After the Turkish conquests of the 15-century, they moved into the area of Zrmanja, Zelengrad, Benkovac, Zemunik and Polesnik. It is believed that the name comes from "Bunja," a type of roundhouse.

The man in this dance are in sense competing against each other to see who can exhibit some of the most challenging steps. Their abilities truly come to the forefront from the special musical and rhythmical effects resulting from the small metal platters attached to their boots.

TRANSLATION: Bachlor's dance

PRONUNCIATION: MOW-mach-koh KOH-loh

CD: "Sviraj svirče drmeša," by Skitnice, track #11

FORMATION: Trio's (W-M-W) facing ctr of circle. M have their arms behind W backs. W have outside hands are joined with M hands twd the outside of W back, while inside hands are placed from behind on nearest M shldr.

HANDS: When hands are free, M place them behind their own back, L on top of R with palms out, while W have loose fists on hips.

STEPS: The M from this area wear boots with special types of bells strapped to the outside of the foot. When they click one ft to the other besides making a rhythmic sound, it creates a special style of dance step, which needs to be learned from a qualified dance teacher.

Hops are low, and often do not leave the ground.

STYLE: M do showoff steps. W have very long skirts and ftwk is so small that it should not be seen under the skirts.

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METER: 2/4

PATTERN

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Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 2 meas.

A FIG. I: DANCE IN PLACE; TURN CW IN PLACE

Dancing in place

1 Step R,L,R (cts 1-&-2); hop on R - W lift L beside R, M click L to R slightly above ankle (ct &).

2-4 Repeat meas 1, alternating ftwk. (4 times in all).

Turn CW in place

5-8 Repeat ftwk of meas 1-4, except trio's turn CW once. W on R moves fwd, W on L bkwd.

**B**      **FIG. II: CW OVAL**

Face ctr throughout Fig.

- 1      Step R-hop diag R fwd (cts 1-&); step L-hop bkwd and behind R (cts 2-&).
- 2      Step R-hop behind L (cts 1-&); step L-hop diag L fwd (cts 2-&).
- 3      Step R-hop diag R fwd (cts 1-&); step L-hop behind R (ct 2-&).
- 4      Step R-hop bkwd and behind L (ct 1-&); step L-hop to L (cts 2-&).
- 5      Step R-hop diag R fwd (cts 1-2); step L-hop bkwd and behind R (cts 2-&).
- 6      Step R behind L (cts 1); step L diag L fwd (cts &); step R diag R fwd (ct 2); close L behind R (ct &).
- 7      Step R-hop diag R fwd (cts 1-&); step L-hop bkwd and behind R (cts 2-&).
- 8      Step R behind L (ct 1); step L diag L fwd (ct &); step R, L fwd (cts 2-&).

**C**      **FIG. III: M DANCE IN PLACE WHILE W EXCHANGE PLACES**

MEN: Facing ctr at all times, dance in place with hands behind back

- 1      Step-hop R in place as L lifts in front of R (cts 1-&);  
step-hop L in place as R beg to circle bkwd (cts 2-&).
- 2      Step-hop R behind L as L lifts in front of R (cts 1-&);  
small step-hop L slightly to L as R lifts in front of L (cts 2-&).
- 3      Step-hop R in place as L beg to circle bkwd (ct 1-&);  
step-hop L behind R, as R lifts in front of L (cts 2-&).
- 4-6      Repeat meas 1-3.
- 7-8      Repeat meas 1-2.

WOMEN: Exchange places - hands on hips

- 1-2      Facing ctr - step R-hop, L-hop (cts 1-2). Step R-L-R-hop (cts 1-&-2-&). Facing ctr - both W move fwd then sdwd crossing in front of M. W on R moves in front of W on L. They are exchanging places.
- 3-4      Step L-hop, R-hop (cts 1-2). Step L,R,L-hop (cts 1-&-2-&). Continue changing places by slowly turning once away from M once (W on R turns L (CCW), W on L turns R (CW)). W end beside M in opp pos.

- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, crossing in front of M to orig place with new W on R moving in front of W on L.  
End by rejoining in original pos.

**A** **FIG. IV: DANCE IN PLACE & CW TURN**

Dancing in place in orig pos

- 1 Step L-hop(cts 1-&); step R-hop (cts 2-&).  
2 Step R,L,R-hop in place (M click L to R just above ankle) (cts 1-&-2-&).  
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk.

Trio's turn CW in place.

- 5-8 Repeating ftwk of meas 1-4, turn CW once in place (W on R moves bkwd, L W fwd).

**B** **FIG. V: M CLICKS**

In orig pos

**MEN**

- 1 Step R fwd (ct 1); hop on R as L clicks just above R ankle (ct &);  
Step L bkwd (ct 2); hop on L as R cuts (quickly lifts) diag bkwd across L (ct &).  
2 Step R beside L with click (displacement) as L ft moves slightly sdwd (ct 1); repeat ct 1, alternating ftwk, 2 more times (3 in all) (cts &-2); hop on R in place as L clicks to R just above ankle (ct &).  
3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, alternating ftwk. (4 times in all)

**WOMEN**

- 1 Step R-hop fwd (cts 1-&); step L-hop bkwd (cts 2-&).  
2 Dancing in place - step R,L,R-hop (cts 1-&-2-&).  
3-8 Repeat alternating ftwk. (4 times in all)

**C** **FIG. VI:**

**MEN: Dance in place with hands behind back**

- 1 With wt on ball of R, twist R heel out as lower L leg lifts high sdwd (ct 1);  
R heel twists in as L clicks R boot top (ct &);  
repeat cts 1-& (cts 2--&).  
2 Repeat meas 1. (click L to R, 4 times)  
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2, with opp ftwk, except step L in place on meas 1, ct 1. (click R to L, 4 times)

- 5 Kick R fwd and high (knee straight) while bouncing on L (ct 1);  
cut R bkwd across L while bouncing on L (ct &);  
twist L heel out as R lower leg lifts sdwd (ct 2);  
L heel twists in as L clicks R boot top (ct &).
- 6 Bounce on L as R lifts bkwd (ct 1); bounce on L as R swings behind L calf (ct &);  
twist L heel out as R ft lifts sdwd (ct 2); twist L heel in as R ft clicks L boot top (ct &).
- 7 Repeat meas 5.
- 8 Step R,L in place (cts 1-&); step R slightly fwd, no wt (ct 2).

**WOMEN:**

- 1-8 Repeat Fig. III, W change places

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\*\*\* Repeat dance from beg, one more times (2 times in all)

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Presented by Željko Jergan

Dance notes by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw, 3-02