

PRESKAČANKA

Line dance from Northeast Bulgaria

Pronunciation: Prehs-KAH-chahn-kah

PRESKAČANKA

Learned by Yves Moreau, fall 1971, from village dance group in Gecovo, Razgrad District, N.E. Bulgaria. Preskačanka belongs to the family of the well-known Pajduško Horo danced throughout Bulgaria and Macedonia. This version is very popular among the "kapanci" people. The "kapanci" are said to be direct descendants of the early Bulgarian settlers ("protobulgarians") who came from the Volga River area with their leader Asparoukh in the 5th century A.D. The term "kapanci" is derived from "na kapki" referring to the special "dotted" embroidery stitch found on their costumes. The "Kapanci" live primarily in about 20 distinct villages situated around the towns of Razgrad, Šumen & Târgovište in N.E. Bulgaria. They have many special dances, songs and rituals. The "Kapanci" wedding is especially colorful.

Record: Worldtone WT-YM-003-a

Meter: 5/16. 1-2, 1-2-3. Counted here as 1,2.

Formation: Short lines of M & W, hands joined down at sides. Face ctr. Wt on L.

Style: Kapanski styling is sort of a mixture of quick North Bulgarian movements and that special touch of Dobrudžan-like heaviness. There is therefore a slight knee bend during the dance & the arm movements are firm.

MEASURE	DESCRIPTION
No introduction music. Dance may start at beg of any musical phrase.	
<u>I "NA MJASTO"</u> (In Place) Nah Mee-YAS-toh	
1	Step on R in front of L, simultaneously, arms swing fwd, about parallel to floor (ct 1) Shift wt back on L in place, arms start swinging bkwd (ct 2).
2	Step bkwd on R ft, arms swing bkwd (ct 1) Step on L in place, arms start swinging fwd (ct 2).
3	Repeat pattern of meas 1, exactly
4	Small hop on L ft in place, arms swing back (ct 1). Small step on R slightly to R, arms start swinging fwd (ct 2).
5-8	Repeat pattern of meas 1-4, reversing ftwork.
<u>II. "NA OKOLO"</u> (Around) Nah OH-kolo	
1	Small hop on L ft in place, hands swing fwd (ct 1) step fwd on R, arms start swinging bkwd (ct 2).
2	Small leap fwd onto L ft next to R, hands swing bkwd (ct 1) small step fwd on R, arms start swinging fwd (ct 2).
3-8	Repeat action of meas 1-2, alternating ftwork. Describe a CW oval floor pattern, i.e- moving fwd, to R, bkwd, and to L, ending in orig pos. (Two meas for each direction).
<u>III. "NAPRED-NAZAD"</u> (Forward & Back) Nah-PRED Nah-ZAHD	
1	Step on R, crossing in front of L, simultaneously hands come up to W pos slightly fwd but point to L (ct 1) shift wt back on L in place, hands remain pointing to L (ct 2).
2	Step to R with R, hands now point to R (ct 1) small step fwd on L, hands remain pointing to R (ct 2).
3-4	Repeat pattern of meas 1-2, exactly.
5	Small hop on L ft in place, hands start moving fwd & upward (ct 1) step on R in front of L, hands move downward (ct 2).

Cont

PRESKAČANKA (Continued)
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MEASURE

DESCRIPTION

III. "NAPRED-NAZAD" (Continued)

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| 6 | Shift wt back on L ft in place (ct 1) Shift wt onto R ft in place (ct 2). |
| 7-8 | Repeat action of meas 5-6, reversing ftwork. |
| 9 | Small hop on L ft in place, (ct 1) . Step bkwd on R (ct 2). |
| 10 | Still moving bkwd, repeat pattern of meas 9, reversing ftwork. |
| 11-12 | Repeat pattern of meas 9-10. |
| 13 | Wt on L, facing ctr, cross R over L (ct 1) Shift wt back onto L (ct 2). |
| 14 | Small hop on L ft in place (ct 1) Small step on R slightly R (ct 2) |
| 15-16 | Repeat action of meas 13-14 reversing ftwork. |

Presented by Yves Moreau

Description by Yves Moreau
and The Wilders.

