

# Tandrčak

Bačka, Yugoslavia

This dance comes from the Bačka region (part of Vojvodina region) where the Croatian people live ( Bunjevci and Šokci) in the areas between the Danube and Tisa Rivers. The region is situated around the ancient town of Bač - which was once a district and also the seat of the Catholic Church. This is how it got its Slavic place-name. The migration of the Dalmatian Croats in the Bačka region (upon liberation from the Turks) did not happen at the same time. Their arrival occurred from the beginning of the 15th to the end of the 17th century. Despite the long period of their being among other Pannonian peoples, the Bačka Croats have survived and kept their speech patterns "ikavian" as well as their wealth of costumes and art forms. This dance is done during wedding and during other social gatherings. The bagpipe (gajde) used to be the traditional instrument played for this music; today the tambura orchestra is used.

The dance was learned by Željko Jergan in 1989 from a village group from Tavankut at the "*Dakovački Vezovi Festival*."

PRONUNCIATION: THAN-drr-chack

CD: "Sviraj Svirče Drmeša" by Skitnice, track #9

FORMATION: Cpls facing in a circle with M back to ctr with hands joined in V-pos, or as traditionally done - cpls or individuals anywhere on floor.

HANDS: When hands are free M hands are in small of back, W has loose fist on hips.

STEPS: Steps are low, and often do not leave the ground.

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

STYLE: All steps are very close to floor, and almost flat footed. 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:** (Instrumental)

1 With wt on balls of ft, step R in place as L moves twd R (M click heels) with heels moving slightly to R (ct 1); repeat ct 1 with opp ftwk (L in pl) (ct 2). (RL)

2 Step R in place as L moves twd R (M click heels) with heels moving slightly to R (ct 1); repeat ct 1, 2 more times (double time) (cts &,2). (RLR)

3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, alternating ftwk, 3 more times (4 in all).

**B**

**FIG. II:** (Instrumental)

1 Step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2).

2 Step R,L,R in place (when stepping on L, most of wt is on heel) (cts 1,&,2).

3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, alternating ftwk, 3 more times (4 in all).



**A**      **REPEAT FIG. I:** (Vocal)

**B**      **FIG. III:** (Vocal)

- 1      With cpls facing and hands still joined in V-pos - drop on R in front of L (ct 1); small leap on L bkwd (ct 2).
- 2      Moving bkwd - step R,L,R,L almost flat footed (cts 1-&-2-&). When stepping on R most of wt is on heel.
- 3-8      Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

**A**      **FIG. IV:** (Instrumental)

M: Hands in small of back with palms out, L on top of R.

- 1      With cpls still facing - hop on L as R toe touches beside L (ct 1); hop on L as R toe touches in front of L (ct 2).
- 2      Dancing in place - do a small chug fwd on L as R beg to move bkwd (ct 1); L heel twists in (twd R) (ct &); step R behind L (ct 2).
- 3-8      Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).
- 1-8      W: Repeat ftwk of Fig. I. Fists on hips.

**B**      **FIG. V:** (Instrumental)

**M:**

- 1      Jump into stride pos (ct 1); jump and click heels tog in air (ct &); land in stride pos (ct 2); jump and click heels tog in air (ct &).
- 2      Land on R as L lifts slightly bkwd (ct 1); stamp L,R in place (cts &-2); small scuff fwd on L heel (ct &).
- 3-8      Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all), except do not take wt on last step (R).

**W:**

- 1      With ft tog, jump 2 times in place, in plié (balls of ft do not leave ground - down feeling) (cts 1-2).
- 2      Small leap on R in place as L lifts slightly bkwd (ct 1); step L,R,L (no wt) in place (cts &-2-&).
- 3-8      Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

**\*\*\* Repeat dance 3 more times (3 in all). On last step of dance, M stamp R fwd (no wt) (ct 2).**



## TANDRČAK (Bačka)

1. Taj, taj tandrčak, igra dika ka cvrčak. (2x)  
Traj, traj do zora, nema dragi odmora. (2x)
2. U naših mlađina, šlingovana rubina, (2x)  
Od sprida je mazana, a od straga krpana. (2x)
3. Taj, taj tandrčak, najio se ka' hrčak. (2x)  
Da se valja po podu, ne bi ubr'o jagodu! (2x)