

Presented by Mary Ann Herman

TARANTELLA NAPOLI

Italy

- SOURCE:** There are many tarantellas but most have the same basic step. The following Tarantella, one of many from Napoli, contains the fundamental Tarantella steps. This music may also be used for other forms of the Neapolitan Tarantella.
- RECORD:** EPA 4126 Special Folk Dances by Michael Herman's Folk Dance Orchestra.
Tarantella di Peppina - Folk Dance House, New York.
- FORMATION:** Cpls facing CCW, W standing to L of M. Inside hands crossed behind ptr back. W has R arm around M waist, M has L arm around W waist. Free hand holds tambourine.
- STEPS:** Step-hop*, Pas de Basque*, Step-close*, and Buzz*.
Step-kick: Step R, quickly extend L fwd (ct 1); step L extending R fwd (ct 2).

Music 6/8 Ct 2 beats to meas. Pattern

meas

- I. STEP-HOP AND WALK
- A 1 Starting R, step-hop R diag fwd, at the same time L is swung behind R.
2 Step-hop L diag fwd, swinging R behind L.
3-4 With 3 steps RLRL, hop R, swinging L ft fwd. Move diag fwd to R.
5-8 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-4, starting step-hop L and moving diag fwd L.
1-8 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-8.
repeated
- II. PAS DE BASQUE, TURN AND BUMP
- B 1-2 Facing ptr, clapping tambourines overhead, pas de basque to the R and L.
3-4 With 4 steps RLRL, turn 3/4 to R to finish with R hips adjacent to ptr, facing away from ptr. W face LOD, M face RLOD.
5-6 Move swd twd ptr; step R, close L, step R and bump R hips.
7-8 With 4 steps LRLR, turn 3/4 to L to finish facing ptr.
1-8 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-8, starting pas de basque L.
repeated

continued...

Tarantella Napoli

- C 1-2 III. PARTNERS CHANGE
Clap own hands, with 4 hops on R, L foot extended bwd, change places with ptr, passing R shoulders. R hand extended fwd, L hand bwd.
- 3-4 When reaching ptrs pos, turn to face ptr with 4 walking steps in place (LRLR).
- 5-8 Repeat action of Fig. III, meas 1-4, starting hop L, passing L shoulders, with L hand extended fwd, R hand bwd.
- 1-8 Repeat action of Fig. III, meas. 1-8.
- repeated
- D 1-8 IV. FLIRTATION
This figure is very flexible. M turns R in place, snapping fingers, taking modified step-hops, improvising with his body, hands and ft in Italian style, while flirting with ptr.
- W moves swd CW once around the M, with a bwd "Buzz Step"; stepping R behind L, stepping L to side. W is clapping her tambourine overhead, in back, to side or just shaking it, while flirting with M.
- V. STEP-KICK
Cpls facing CCW, with W to L of M, W's R arm around M's waist, M's L arm around W's waist.
- 1-8 Take 16 step-kicks, leaning shoulders bwd, while extending ft fwd.
- repeated Very little progression is made on the step-kicks.
- E 1-8 VI. FLIRTATION
Repeat action of Fig. IV, meas. 1-8.
- VII. TURN WITH PARTNER AND SOLO TURN
- 1-8 Facing ptr, clap own hands, start R run twd ptr and place R arm around ptrs waist. Turn partly with ptr, then remove arm and twirl to R, finishing in ptrs pos.
- repeated Repeat action of Fig. VII, meas 1-4, starting L and placing L arm around ptrs waist. Finish in original pos to repeat dance from the beginning.
- 1-4
- 5-8

Repeat dance from the beginning, then repeat Fig. I and Fig. II.