

# TARANTELLA DI PEPPINA

(Italy)

Notes are by Mary Ann Herman, who learned the dance from Italian natives many years ago. Madelynne Greene first learned the dance at the Maine Folk Dance Camp. 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.

**Music:** Record: EPA 4126 Special Folk Dances by Michael Herman's Folk Dance Orchestra. 6/8 meter.  
Tarantella di Peppina - Folk Dance House, New York.

**Formation:** Cpls facing CCW, W standing to L of M. Inside hands crossed behind ptr's 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). (ct 2 beats to each meas of 6/8 music).

<u>Measures</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
	<b>FIG I (STEP-HOP AND WALK)</b>
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 R, L, R, 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)	Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-8.

	<b>FIG II (PAS DE BASQUE, TURN AND BUMP)</b>
B 1-2	Facing ptr, clapping tambourines overhead, pas de basque to the R and L.
3-4	With 4 steps R, L, R, L, 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 sdwd twd ptr; step R, close L, step R and bump R hips.
7-8	With 4 steps L, R, L, R, turn 3/4 to L to finish facing ptr.
1-8 (repeat)	Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-8, starting pas de basque L.

	<b>FIG III (PARTNERS CHANGE)</b>
C 1-2	Clap own hands, with 4 hops on R, L ft extended bkwd, change places with ptr, passing R shoulders. R hand extended fwd, L hand bkwd.
3-4	When reaching ptr's pos, turn to face ptr with 4 walking steps in place (L, R, L, R).
5-8	Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1-4, starting hop L, passing L shoulders with L hand extended fwd, R bkwd.
1-8 (repeat)	Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1-8.

*Continued...*

## TARANTELLA DI PEPPINA (cont)

## FIG IV (FLIRTATION)

D 1-8

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 sdwd CW once around the M, with a bkwd "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.

## FIG V (STEP-KICK)

1-8 (repeat)

Cpls facing CCW, with W to L of M, W R arm around M waist, M L arm around W waist. Take 16 step-kicks, leaning shoulders bkwd, while extending ft fwd. Very little progression is made on the step-kicks.

## FIG VI (FLIRTATION)

E 1-8

Repeat action of Fig IV, meas 1-8.

## FIG VII (TURN WITH PTR AND SOLO TURN)

1-8 (repeat)

Facing ptr, clap own hands, start R run twd ptr and place R arm around ptr's waist. Turn partly with ptr, then remove arm and twirl to R, finishing in ptr's pos. Repeat action of Fig VII, meas 1-4, starting L and placing L arm around ptr's waist. Finish in original pos to repeat dance from the beginning.

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

## BASSQUE, TURN AND BUMP Presented by Madelynne Greene

1-8 (repeat) Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-8, starting pas de bassque L.  
 2-8 With 4 steps L, R, L, R, turn 3/4 to L to finish facing ptr.  
 3-4 With 4 steps L, R, L, R, turn 3/4 to R to finish de bassque to the R and L.  
 5-8 Move sdwd twd ptr; step R, close L, step R and bump R hips.  
 7-8 With 4 steps L, R, L, R, turn 3/4 to L to finish facing ptr.  
 1-8 (repeat) Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-8, starting pas de bassque L.

## FIG III (PARTNERS CHANGE)

1-8 (repeat) Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1-8, passing L shoulders with L hand extended fwd, R bkwd. Clap own hands, with 4 hops on R, L ft extended. When reaching ptr's pos, turn to face ptr with 4 walking steps in place (L, R, L, R).  
 2-8 Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1-4, starting hop L, passing L shoulders with L hand extended fwd, R bkwd.  
 3-4 When reaching ptr's pos, turn to face ptr with 4 walking steps in place (L, R, L, R).  
 5-8 Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1-4, starting hop L, passing L shoulders with L hand extended fwd, R bkwd. Clap own hands, with 4 hops on R, L ft extended.