

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

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ČIRO

Croatia (Slavonia)

A number of dances are performed to this melody with humorous lyrics ridiculing a boy named Čiro (pronounced CHEE-roh). This version for couples was presented at Folk Dance Camp, University of the Pacific, Stockton, California, by Atanas Kolarovski of Skopje, Yugoslavia, in 1966.

MUSIC: Record: Folkraft 1499X45; Folk Dancer MH3024; Kolo Festival EP105; Kolo LP 1018.

FORMATION: Closed circle of cpls facing ctr, W to R of ptr, hands joined and down. R ft free.

STEPS AND STYLING: Leap: (Right) Spring off the floor on L ft and land on R ft, both ft off the floor at height of action. There is a slight knee bend at beginning and end of action. When repeated, reverse footwork.

Croatian Three: (Right) Step on R ft, bending R knee (ct 1), hold (ct &), step L (ct 2), step R (ct &). When repeated, reverse footwork. May be danced in place or moving in a given direction.

Step-hop-step: (Right) Step on R ft (ct 1), hold (ct &), hop on R (ct 2), step on L ft (ct &). When performed in a series, the step does not alternate but always starts on the same ft.

Keep knees flexible throughout the dance. Use small steps with wt on balls of ft, keeping ft close to floor without shuffling. Posture should be erect without swaying or bending, as action is concentrated in knees and ankles.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

A 1-8 INTRODUCTION. No action.

B 1-8 I. TO CENTER AND OUT (LEAPS)

A 1 Moving fwd twd ctr of circle, leap R (ct 1), leap L (ct 2).

2 Dance one Croatian Three (R), moving fwd on ct 1 and beginning to move bwd on ct 2.

3-4 Continuing bwd out of circle, repeat action of meas 1-2 with opp footwork, but dance meas 4 in place.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4.

II. INDIVIDUAL TURNS

Release hands and raise above head, elbows to side and bent, wrists straight, palms fwd and fingers relaxed.

B 1-3 Dancers complete one or more individual CW turns in place with three Croatian Threes (R,L,R). Finish facing ctr.

4 Dance one Croatian Three (L) in place without turning.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II) with same footwork, but turning CCW on meas 5-7.

III. TO CENTER AND OUT (STEP-HOP-STEPS)

Rejoin hands as in Fig I.

A 1 Moving fwd twd ctr step R (ct 1), hop R as L ft describes a small arc close to floor with L knee straight (ct 2), step fwd L (ct &).

2 Dance one Croatian Three (R), beginning to move bwd on ct 2.

3-4 Continuing to move bwd, repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig III) with opp footwork, but dance meas 4 in place.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III).

IV. COUPLE TURNS

Release hands. Place R arm around ptrs waist, R hips adjacent, L arm high.

B 1-3 Turning CW in place, dance three Step-hop-steps (R).

4 Dance one Croatian Three (R). Change pos to L hips adjacent, L arm around ptrs waist, R arm high.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig IV) with opp footwork, turning CCW.

ČIRO (continued)

V. TO RIGHT AND LEFT

Rejoin hands as in Fig I.

- A 1 Moving swd R (CCW), dance one Step-hop-step (R).
2 Dance one Croatian Three (R) in place.
3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig V) with opp footwork, moving swd L (CW) on meas 3.
5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig V).

VI. COUPLE TURNS

- B 1-8 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig IV).

Repeat the dance from the beginning.

NOTE: When using the Folkraft record, the dance will be completed three times. Other recordings differ in the number of times the melody is repeated.