Deninka  
(Bulgaria)

Deninka (DEH-nee-kah) is a line dance from the Pirin area of Bulgaria. It was originally a women’s dance, with a lyrical, gentle style, although very strong, deliberate movements appear during the three slow steps in measures six and seven. Deninka was presented by Dick Crum at the Santa Maria Statewide Institute in May 1975 and at the San Francisco Kolo Festival in November 1975.

**RECORD:**  
MH LP-110, Side B/2 "Ordan sedi na kulata;" XOPO X-329-A "Ordan sedi."

**RHYTHM:**  
7/8 meter: 3/8, 2/8, 2/8, counted here as 1, 2, 3.  
Could be cued as slow, quick, quick.

**FORMATION:**  
Dancers in a single open circle or line, facing center, hands joined with adjacent dancers at shoulder level in "W" pos. Weight on L ft. The leader (dancer at R end) may carry a handkerchief in R hand.

**STEPS and STYLING:**

Čukče (CHOOK-cheh): Rise up on ball of supporting foot before the count; come down on the heel on the count.

There are eight measures in each musical phrase, whereas there are nine measures to one complete dance pattern. Thus, the dance "crosses" the musical phrase.

*Described in *Steps & Styling*, published by the Folk Dance Federation of Calif., Inc.

---

**MUSIC**  
7/8 meter  

**PATTERN**

---

**Measures**

8 meas  

**INTRODUCTION**  
No action.

**PATTERN**

1  
Facing ctr, Čukče on L ft, R ft slightly off floor in front of L, R knee slightly bent (ct 1); facing R of ctr, walk R,L in LOD (CCW) (cts 2,3).

2-3  
Continue walking in LOD with 6 more steps, beg R. Maintain the slow, quick, quick rhythm.

4  
Turning to face ctr, step on R to R (ct 1); step on L slightly in front of R (ct 2); step back onto R ft slightly to the R of where it was placed on ct 1 (ct 3).

5  
Still facing ctr, Čukče on R ft, L ft slightly off floor in front of R, L knee slightly bent (ct 1); step on L to L (ct 2); step on R in front of L, immediately raising high on ball of R ft in preparation for the next step (ct 3).
6 Step on L behind R, bending L knee slightly, immediately rising high on the ball of L ft in preparation for the next step (ct 1); step on R to R side, bending R knee slightly (ct 2); rise high on R ft in preparation for the next step (ct 3).

7 Step on L in front of R, bending L knee slightly (ct 1); placing R ft beside L (no wt), bounce gently twice on L heel (cts 2,3).

8 Dance a small step fwd on R twd ctr (ct 1); placing L ft beside R (no wt), bounce gently twice on R heel (cts 2,3).

9 Dance a small step bkwd onto L away from ctr (ct 1); placing R ft beside L (no wt), bounce gently twice on L heel (cts 2,3).

DANCE SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written eleven times plus measures 1-4. End by closing L ft to R as the music fades.