

Hora femeilor

(Oltenia)

Hora femeilor (HOH-rah feh-MAY-ee-lohr) is a Hora mare (“big hora”) in 6/8 rhythm traditionally performed only by women, and found all over Oltenia and Muntenia. It was taught by Theodor Vasilescu at the 1995 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, California.

Cassette: Vasilescu, Stockton 1995 Side B/5

Rhythm: 6/8 meter, counted 1 2 3 4 5 6
S Q S Q

Formation: Closed circle facing ctr with hands joined in W-pos.

| Measures | 6/8 meter | PATTERN |
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8 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. CROSSING STEPS

- 1 Moving in RLOD and facing L of ctr, step on R across L (ct 1-2); step on L to L (ct 3); step on R behind L, turning to face R of ctr (ct 4-5); step on L to L (ct 6).
- 2 Step on R across L, turning to face L of ctr (ct 1-2); step on L to L (ct 3); step on R across L (ct 4-6).
- 3 Pivoting on R in plié to face ctr, swing L across R with slightly bent knee (ct 1-2); moving sdwd in RLOD, step on L to L (ct 3); step on R behind L (ct 4-5); step on L to L (ct 6).
- 4 Continuing sdwd, step on R behind L (ct 1-2); step on L to L (ct 3); step on R behind L, pivoting to face L of ctr as L beg to circle bkwd (ct 4-6).
- 5 Moving in LOD, step on L behind R (ct 1-2); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L across R, turning to face R of ctr (ct 4-5); step on R to R (ct 6).
- 6 Step on L behind R, turning to face L of ctr (ct 1-2); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L behind R (ct 4-6).
- 7 Facing ctr, step fwd on R as L lifts beside R calf (ct 1-3); step bkwd on L (ct 4-5); step on R next to L (ct 6).
- 8 Facing R of ctr, step on L across R (ct 1-2); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L across R (ct 4-6).

II. TOUCH HEEL AND TOE

- 1 Pivoting on bent L knee to face diag L of ctr, touch R heel fwd (ct 1-2); pivoting on L to face R of ctr, step on R in place (ct 3); touch L toe fwd (ct 4-6).
- 2 Moving in LOD, step on L across R (ct 1-2); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L across R (ct 4-6).

- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 (touches and cross over).
- 5 Facing ctr, step fwd on R as L lifts beside R, slightly higher than ankle (ct 1-3); step bkwd on L (ct 4-5); step on R next to L (ct 6).
- 6 Moving in LOD, step on L across R, turning to face R of ctr (ct 1-2); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L across R (ct 4-5); pivot on L to face slightly L of ctr as R circles fwd (ct 6).
- 7 Moving in RLOD, step on R across L (ct 1-2); step on L to L (ct 3); step on R behind L, turning to face R of ctr (ct 4-5); step on L to L (ct 6).
- 8 Step on R across L, turning to face L of ctr (ct 1-2); step on L to L (ct 3); step on R across L (ct 4-6).

III. INTO CENTER AND BACK

- 1 Moving and facing diag R of ctr, step diag fwd on L (ct 1-2); step on R next to L (ct 3); step fwd on L diag R (ct 4-5); pivoting on L to face diag L, circle R fwd (ct 6).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk moving fwd diag L twd ctr.
- 3 Facing ctr and moving bkwd, step bkwd on L (ct 1-2); step on R across L (ct 3); step bkwd on L (ct 4-5); step bkwd on R (ct 6).
- 4 Step bkwd on L (ct 1-2); step on R across L (ct 3); step bkwd on L (ct 4-6).
- 5 Step fwd on R (ct 1-2); with wt on slightly bent R leg, touch ball of L beside R twice (cts 3, 4-5); straighten R knee as L kicks softly fwd close to the floor straightening leg (ct 6).
- 6 Moving bkwd from ctr, step bkwd on L (ct 1-2); step on R next to L (ct 3); step bkwd on L (ct 4-6).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.

Sequence: Dance the entire dance twice through. End closing R to L, hold.