

Lourke

(Armenia)

Lourke (LOOR-kay) means “cradle for babies.” The original word comes from Kurdish and means a rocking up and down movement. It is a traditional dance from the Vaspourakan region, historical West-Armenia. Presented by Tineke van Geel at the 2003 Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

CD: *Dances from Armenia*, Compilation Van Geel Records, Band 8. 4/4, 6/8meter

Formation: Little fingers interlocked in W-pos, open circle, facing ctr. Can be done with regular hand hold (W-pos).

Meas	Pattern
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4 meas INTRODUCTION

4/4 meter SLOW PART

- 1 Ft in closed pos, bend both knees (ct 1); stretch both knees (ct &); repeat cts 1, & three times (total 4 times)(cts 2-4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1, cts 1&, but turn on both heels to diag R, both ft pointing diag R (cts 1,&); repeat meas 1, cts 1,&, turn on both ft to ctr (cts 2,&); repeat meas 2, cts 1,& in opp direction (cts 3,&); turn on both ft to ctr (cts 4,&).
- 3 Step fwd on R, R shldr moving fwd with small accent (ct 1); step back on L (ct &); step on R beside L (ct 2); step fwd on L, L shldr moving fwd with small accent (ct 3); step back on R (ct &); step on L beside R (ct 4).
- 4 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L across behind R, arms swing down (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L beside R, arms coming back to W pos (ct 4).

6/8 meter FIGURE 2 (FAST PART)

- 1 Step fwd on R heel, arms come fwd in a horizontal pos to ctr (cts 1-2); leap bkwd onto L (ct 3); step on R beside L, arms back to W pos (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3 Chug on both ft slightly diag R fwd (cts 1-3); chug bkwd on both ft to ctr pos (cts 4-6).
- 4 Repeat meas 3, cts 1-3, diag fwd L (cts 1-3); leap onto L facing ctr, lift R ft behind (cts 4-6).
- 5 Hop on L, touch R heel fwd to floor (ct 1-3); leap onto R (cts 4-6).
- 6 Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk.
- 7 Hop on L (ct 1); step on R to R (cts 2-3); cross L behind R (cts 4-6). During meas 7, the arms swing down.
- 8 Hop on L (ct 1); step on R to R (cts 2-3); cross L over R (cts 4-6). During meas 8, the arms swing back to W pos.

Optional: on meas 5-8, hops are optional (ct 1), steps become cts 1-3.

Sequence: Slow Part 4 times, Fast Part 4 times; repeat sequence twice more (3 times total).