

Ropoțelul

(Bucovina, Romania)

Ropoțelul (roh-poh-TSEH-lool) is a traditional dance from the village of Vama in the Bucovina region of Romania. The name comes from *ropot*, which means “tramp,” “clatter,” or “thundering,” such as the sound of hooves or rain on a roof. *El* is a Romanian diminutive suffix and *ul* is the article “the.” This dance was presented by Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion at Stockton Folk Dance Camp in the summer of 2025.

Music: 4/4 Meter CD: Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian Realm Vol. 13, Band 5.
The CD can be obtained by contacting Sonia Dion at
sonia_dion@hotmail.com.

Video: Cristian and Sonia produce their own videos, which can be purchased by contacting
sonia_dion@hotmail.com. If you attended Stockton Folk Dance Camp and purchased the
video package, you will have access to the videos.

Formation: Mixed circle of dancers in a shoulder hold facing center. If a shoulder hold is uncomfortable,
arms should be down in V-position.

Steps and Styling: Joyful, bouncy, relaxed.

Meas	Meter 4/4	PATTERN
2 meas	INTRODUCTION. No action.	
	I. IN PLACE; TO THE RIGHT AND BACK TO THE LEFT.	
1	Step R in front of L (ct 1); step L in place (ct 2); step R beside L (ct 3); lift L in front (ct 4).	
2	Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.	
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2.	
5	Sway R to R (ct 1); bounce on R (ct 2); repeat cts 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction (cts 3-4).	
6	Repeat meas 5.	
7	Step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); step L behind R (ct 4).	
8	Repeat meas 7, cts 1-2 (cts 1-2); step R to R (ct 3); kick L fwd (ct 4).	
9-10	Repeat meas 7-8 with opp ftwk and direction.	
11-12	Repeat meas 5-6 (sways).	
	II. TRAVELING RIGHT.	
1	Step R to R (ct 1); step L beside R (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); lift L fwd with bent knee (ct 4).	
2	Step L across R (ct 1); lift R behind (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); step L beside R (ct 4).	
3	Step R to R (ct 1); lift L fwd with bent knee (ct 2); step L across R (ct 3); lift R behind (ct 4).	
4-6	Repeat meas 1-3.	
7	Step R to R (ct 1); step L beside R (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); lift L fwd with bent knee (ct 4).	
	Note: the same 6-count pattern is done four and a half times; the pattern crosses the measures.	
	III. IN PLACE; TO THE LEFT AND BACK TO THE RIGHT.	
1-12	Repeat Fig I with opp ftwk and direction.	
	IV. TRAVELING LEFT.	
1-7	Repeat Fig II with opp ftwk and direction.	

Sequence: Repeat as set forth above three times, then Fig I, Fig II, Fig III meas 1-6.