

## Šotyš from Záhorie

(Slovakia)

Šotyš from Záhorie (SHOH-teesh from ZAH-hohr-ee) translates as the schottische from the ethnographic region of Záhorie, which is located in western Slovakia (the area around the capital city of Bratislava). This couple dance was especially popular during the end of the 19th century and again during the period between the two world wars. It came to Slovakia via European dance masters who traveled around teaching such dances as the mazurka, waltz, polka, schottische, and quadrilles. Vonnie R. Brown learned the dance in Slovakia in 1995 from Jano Blaho of Bratislava, and taught it at the 1998 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

Music: Cassettes: Slovak and Czech Dances, Vonnie R. Brown, Side A4; 2/4 meter  
CD: Slovak and Czech Dances, Vonnie R. Brown, Band 4.

Formation: Circle of cpls in Closed-Ballroom pos, M with back to ctr, joined hands extended down in LOD.

Steps and Pivot\*, Closed-Ballroom pos\*.

Styling: Ftwk described for M; W use opp ftwk. Beg with outside ft (M L, W R).

\* Described in the "General Glossary" of *Steps & Styling (rev. 1996)*, published by the Folk Dance Federation of CA, Inc.

---

Measures	2/4 meter	PATTERN
4 meas	INTRODUCTION: No action.	
	I. <u>SEVENS</u>	
1-2	Step sdwd on L in LOD (CCW) (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct &); repeat twice more (cts 2, &, 1, &); step sdwd on L to L with slight accent (ct 2); hold (ct &). Steps are with the whole ft. Move extended leading arms (M L, W R) up on ct 1, down on ct &, etc., ending with them up (meas 2, ct 2).	
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction (RLOD, CW). Now move arms (M L, W R) down on ct 1, up on ct &, ending with them down (meas 4, ct 2).	
	II. <u>CHASSÉ, STAMP, PIVOT</u>	
1	Slide (chassé) sdwd in LOD: make large step to L on L (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct &); take large step to L on L (ct 2); hold (ct &).	
2	Both turn 1/4 to face RLOD. Releasing Closed-Ballroom pos, and swinging joined inside hands fwd while outside arms swing out to side, step on R (outside ft) (ct 1); stamp fwd on L (no wt) (ct 2).	
3-4	Resuming Closed-Ballroom pos, turn once CW as a cpl with 4 pivot steps (2 steps per meas). Extend leading arms (M L, W R) and move them up in a relaxed manner on each ct 1, down on each ct 2. End in original pos with M back to ctr.	

III. CHASSÉ, LEG SWING, PIVOT

- 1-2 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-2 except that on meas 2, ct 2, swing inside leg fwd instead of stamping.  
3-4 Repeat Fig II, meas 3-4 (pivots).

IV. CHASSÉ, LEG SWING, WOMAN TURNS

- 1-2 Repeat Fig III, meas 1-2.  
3-4 Moving slightly fwd in LOD, M walks fwd with 4 steps while W turns CW once or twice with 4 steps under joined hands (M L, W R). M R arm can be held down, up, or be swung fwd on the & cts to “push” the W skirt.

Repeat dance until the end of the music.

An alternative pattern is to do Figs I and II twice and then do Figs III and IV twice.