

## Çemen

(Turkish/Kurdish)

Çemen (CHEH-men) means grass. This dance was taught at SFDC in 2007 and at the Laguna Folkdance Festival in 2008. It was again presented by Ahmet Lüleci at the 2021 Stockton Virtual Folk Dance Camp.

Music: 10/8 meter: For dance purposes, step on counts 1, 3, and 4.  
Presented here as: S (ct 1), Q (ct 2), Q (ct 3).

Video: 2021 SVFDC downloads. To view, contact a camper who donated to camp and received access to the downloads. Videos and music are also available on Ahmet's Turkish Dances CD #5 and DVD from Ahmet at luleci.com. The song is Darhol by Delil Dîlanar on the album Neçîrvano.

Formation: Semi-circle facing CCW, little fingers joining the hands, L hand behind the back, L elbow bent, R hand in front joining next dancer's L hand (Debka hold). When facing ctr, arms drop to V-pos and slowly rise in front during Fig I, meas 5-8. At the end of meas 8, slightly bend elbows and bring arms quickly into beginning position.

Steps & Styling: Low and earthy with slight bounces and small, deliberate steps.



Ahmet Lüleci.  
Photo by M. Giusto.

Meas	10/8 meter	PATTERN
1-8	INTRODUCTION. Once through the melody.	
	I. FIGURE I.	
1	Facing CCW and moving slightly diag R, long step R fwd (ct 1); short step L fwd (ct 2); short step R fwd (ct 3). (S,Q,Q)	
2	Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk on L diag.	
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2, turning to face ctr at end of meas 4.	
5	Drop arms to V-pos. Step R in place (ct 1); touch L toes slightly fwd (ct 2); lift (flick) L toes slightly (ct 3). Start raising arms gradually in front on cts 2, 3.	
6	Continuing to slowly raise arms, step L next to R (ct 1); touch R toes slightly fwd (ct 2); lift (flick) R toes slightly (ct 3).	
7-8	Repeat meas 5-6. At the end of meas 8, face CCW, bend elbows slightly and return arms to beginning pos.	
	Figure I is repeated until the leader signals to change to Fig II.	
	II. FIGURE II (optional).	
	Steps are the same as Fig I except dancers move into and away from ctr. Arms stay raised in front above the head throughout Fig II.	
	TOWARD CENTER.	
1-4	Repeat Fig I, meas 1-4, moving slowly twd ctr.	
5-8	Repeat Fig I, meas 5-8. Continue facing ctr on ct 8.	
	BACKING UP.	
1-4	Repeat Fig I, meas 1-4, backing away from ctr.	
5-8	Repeat Fig I, meas 5-8. Continue facing ctr unless changing to Fig I.	
	Figure II is repeated until the leader signals to change to Fig I.	