

DEBKA HASHALOM

(Israel)

Choreographed by Rivka Sturma in 1968, and considered a classic Israeli dance. Although the name says "debka" this has no steps typically seen in a debka. It has the name because of the words to the song (see lyrics).

Translation: Debka of Peace

Formation: Lines of dancers facing CCW, hands joined and down.

Part I Walk, brush, walk, stamp

Meas.

- 1 Step forward on R (ct 1); step forward on L (ct 2)
- 2 Brush R foot fwd (ct 1); brush right foot back across R (ct &); brush R foot forward (ct 2); leap forward onto R (ct &)
- 3 Step forward on R (ct 1); step forward on L (ct 2)
- 4 Step forward on L and turn 1/4 to L (ct 1); stamp R without weight next to L (ct 2).
- 5-8 Turn 1/4 to R to face LOD and repeat meas. 1-4 **** SEE NOTE regarding sequence at end regarding Meas. 8**

Part II Skip, slide, skip, stamp

Meas.

- 1 Step forward on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct &); step forward on L (ct 2); hop on L and turn 1/4 to L (ct &)
- 2 Wide step on R to R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct &); wide step on R to R and turn 1/4 R to face LOD (ct 2)
- 3 Step forward on L (ct 1); hop on L (ct &); step forward on R (ct 2); hop on R L (ct &)
- 4 Step forward on L (ct 1); hop on L (ct &); turn 1/4 to L and close R next to L without weight (ct 2)
- 5-8 Turn 1/4 to R to face LOD and repeat meas. 1-4

Part III Step-hop, step

Meas.

- 1 Facing LOD, step forward on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct &); step forward on L (ct 2); turn 1/4 to L to face center (ct &)
- 2 Facing and moving toward center, step forward on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct &); step forward on L (ct 2)
- 3 Facing center but backing away from center, step backward on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct &); step on L backward (ct 2); turn 1/4 to R to face LOD (ct &)
- 4 Repeat Meas. 1, counts 1-2 (do not turn to face center)
- 5-7 Repeat meas. 1-3
- 8 Step forward on L (ct 1); step forward on R (ct 2)
- 9 Step forward on L (ct 1); step forward on R (ct 2)

- 10 Step forward on L (ct 1); step forward on R (ct 2)
11 Step forward on L (ct 1); stamp R next to L twice (ct 2 &)

SEQUENCE: The dance is done twice as noted above. Between the SECOND and THIRD time through the dance there is a musical bridge without lyrics. During this bridge, Part I is done EXCEPT that meas. 8 has two more steps (R, L) before the two stamps. Then the dance is repeated once more from the beginning.

Knowing this idiosyncrasy is evidence of an experienced dancer who knows this dance well! The leader will frequently whistle or wave a hand to remind followers that this is the bridge and to pay attention.

Debka Hashalom

Me'ir Zion nisa shalom
Lechol yalda vayeled
Homa yona beshir shalom
Lechol olam vakeret
Nogen kinor belev kirya
Shalom noshek kol sha'al
Vechol iri ko homiya
L'shlom tinok basha'ar

L'shalom bamachol
Debka or Debka gil
Leshalom bamachol
Debka or baleili

Milev kotli nogen
Shalom lechol asher yofi'a
Ve'or chama veroch chalom
Rak shir shalom nashmia
Vekol tsipor bimrom al kol
Tachgog bimchol hadebka
Shof'at chayim chovka bakol
Veshir shalom na'adea

L'shalom....

Debka to the Peace

From Zion we will bring peace
To every boy and girl
A dove is humming a peace song
To the whole world
A violin is playing in the heart of the city
Peace kisses every step
And all my town is humming
Peace for a baby in her crib

Peace in a dance
A debka of light, a debka of joy
Peace in a dance
A debka of light in my night

From the wall of my heart
Peace is played to all who appear
Through sunlight and softness of dream
Only a song of peace we will utter
And every bird sings to everyone,
Celebrating with a debka dance
Full of life, embracing all,
And a song of peace will embrace her

Peace in a dance....