

NEAPOLITAN TARANTELLA (Italy)



The following Tarantella, one of many from Napoli, consists of the fundamental Tarantella steps.

OPENING FORMATION: Couples all facing counterclockwise, with the lady standing on the left of the man. Inside hands are behind one another's backs, with free hands holding umbrellas.

PART 1: All step-hop forward diagonally to the right on the right foot. At the same time left foot is swung behind right foot. All step-hop-hop diagonally forward to the left on the left foot, swinging right foot back. All moving diagonally forward to the right, take 3 steps and a hop, (right, left, right, hop on right).

Repeat the above sequence in other direction; 3 step-hop forward left; step-hop forward right, and left, right, left, hop on left.

Repeat the entire sequence.

PART 2: Face partner. Do a "pas de basque" to the right and left, clapping tambourines overhead. Turn to own right—right, left, right— $\frac{1}{2}$ of the way so that you finish with right hip adjacent to partner, facing away from partner. Move sideways to partner with a step-draw, then another step and bump hips together. Turn to own left with 2 steps—left, right, left.

Face partner again. Do a "pas de basque" to own left and right, and turn $\frac{1}{2}$ to the left with 3 steps—left, right, left. Left hips are now adjacent to each other. Step-draw to partner, then step and bump left hips. Take a turn to own right.

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PART 3: Face partner. Clap own hands and, passing by the right shoulder, change places with partner by stepping on right toes (4 hops). Right hand is extended forward, left hand backward. When reaching partner's position, turn to face partner with 4 steps in place. Clap hands and return to original position with 4 step-hops on left foot, as left hand is extended forward and right hand backward. Repeat all of Part 3.

PART 4: FLIRTATION FIGURE: This figure is very flexible. Man turns to place above, snapping fingers, making modified step-hops, improvising with his body, hands, and feet in Italian style, while flirting with partner. The lady at the same time moves sideways, clockwise around the man, clapping her tambourines overhead, to back, to side, or just shaking it; she flirts with the man. Her step is a backward "bump step," for she steps to back on the right foot, and to the side on the left foot.

PART 5: Take position as in Opening Formation and gove-tick forward alternating feet with each step.

PART 6: Repeat the Flirtation Figure as in Part 4.

PART 7: Face partner. Clap own hands, two towards partner and place right arm around partner's waist. Turn partly with partner, but then remove arm and twist side, finishing in partner's place. Clap own hands and put left hand around partner's waist. Turn partly with partner, then detach yourself and twist into original position.

Repeat entire dance from beginning.

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