

NIŠKI ČAČAK

(SERBIA)

This dance is from Niš, the largest city in southern Serbia. The primary instruments in this region used to play are the gajde, duduke and frula, which have later been replaced by other wind instruments.

Pronunciation: NEESH-kee CHAH-chahk Translation: Čačak from Niš

Music: 4/4 meter

Formation: Semi-circle of dancers facing ctr; hands in front belt-hold pos, L hand over R back basket hold or V.

Steps & Styling: Fairly small, precise steps. The music is not fast, so very small steps are not necessary.

The primary feature of this region is sharp, firm dancing with the weight on the whole foot and a slight tightness in the knee which results in the slight flicker or firm shake of the whole body.

Meas 4/4 meter Pattern

4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. TRAVEL, REEL, BACK

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step R to R (ct 1); step L across R (ct 2); repeat cts 1-2 (cts 3-4).
- 2 Step R in place (ct 1); lift L knee around R leg (ct 2); step L behind R (ct 3); lift R knee around L leg (ct 4).
- 3 Step R behind L (ct 1); lift L knee around R (ct 2); step L behind R (ct 3); step R fwd (ct 4).
- 4 Step L fwd (ct 1); close R to L, no wt (ct 2); step R fwd (ct 3); bounce on R while lifting L knee, L foot next to R calf (ct 4).
- 5 Step L bkwd (ct 1); step R beside L (ct 2); step L bkwd (ct 3); bounce on L while lifting R knee, R foot next to L calf (ct 4).

II PIVOTS, CHANGE DIRECTION.

- 1 Feet together, pivot heels to R (ct 1); pivot toes to R (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); bounce on R and lift L knee across R (ct 4).
 - 2 Step L in front of R (ct 1); bounce on L, R foot back (ct 2); step R bkwd (ct 3); lift L knee (ct. 4).
 - 3 Step L to L (ct 1); step R across L (ct 2); bounce on L and lift R (ct 4).
 - 4 Step R in place (ct 1); bounce on R and lift L (ct 2); step L to L (ct 3); step R across L (ct 4).
 - 5 Hop on R (ct 1); step L to L (ct 2); step R across L (ct 3); feet together, jump on both, knees bent, toes facing ctr (ct 3); hold, knees still bent (ct 4).
- 6-10 Repeat Fig II but on meas 5, cts 1-3, turn CCW 180° to face out.
- 11-15 Repeat Fig II facing out. On meas 15, cts 1-3, turn CCW 180° to face ctr.

Niški Čačak — continued

III. CROSS-STEPS, REELS.

- 1 Facing ctr, take small step fwd on R in front of L (ct 1); step L in place (ct 2); repeat cts 1-2 (cts 3-4); moving slightly to R.
- 2 Step R to R (ct 1); hop on R, lifting L around behind R (ct 2); step L behind R (ct 3); hop on L, lifting R around behind L (ct 4). (These are two bkwd reel steps.)
- 3 Step R behind L (ct 1); hop on R, lifting L in front (ct 2); step L in front of R (ct 3); step R in place (ct 4).
- 4 Step L to L (ct 1); step R in place (ct 2); step L on front of R (ct 3); hop on L (ct 4).
- 5 Step R across L (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2); step L bkwd (ct 3); hop on L (ct 4).

ENDING.

- 1 Leap L to L (ct 1); stamp R next to L (ct 2).

Sequence: Fig I and Fig III alternating four times each, Ending.

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