

Ethnic Dance Chicago (EDC)

Dancing As a Second Language

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Balkan and Middle Eastern Dance/Music Rhythm Gallery





Rhythm Gallery

Enjoy learning about unusual Balkan & Middle Eastern Dance/Music Rhythms and listening to some ethnic folk music while you're visiting www.ethnicdance.net or surfing elsewhere on the web!

Some of these examples of rhythms are linked to music clips on this site. Over time, we'll get all of the examples online. Why not listen and learn about this exciting music while you're reading this page or surfing the web.

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GROUP 1			
[Q = 1/2 beat = &, S = 1 full beat = 1] (Q=Quick, S=Slow)			
Meter	Counting Method 1	Counting Method 2	Examples
2/4	SQQ (Mixed Pickles)	1-2&	U Sest (Serbia) , Syrtos (Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria), Sirto (Bulgaria), Pravoto or Lesnoto Oro (Macedonia), Kjucek (Bulgaria), Cocek (Serbia)
	QQS	1&-2	Kokonjeste Kolo (Serbia), Kukunjesko Horo (Bulgaria), Crnogorka (Macedonia)
		1&-2	Ovcepolska Potrculka (Macedonia), Kopacka (Macedonia)
		1&-2&	Sopsko Horo 2/4 (Bulgaria)
		1&-2&	Trite Puti 2/4 (Bulgaria)
		1&-2&	Pravo Trakijsko 2/4 (Bulgaria)
3/8	SSS	1-2-3	Zikino Kolo (Serbia)
5/4	SQQSSQQ	1-2&-3-4-5&	Zagorisios (Epirus, Greece)
6/8	SSSSSS	1-2-3-4-5-6	Zikino Kolo (Serbia, sometimes also played 7/8), Bojerka (Bosnia), Hora Mare Moldovaneasc (Romania), Tsamikos (Greece)
8/8	SQSQS (Get Your Papers Here)	1&-2-3&-4-5&	Invirtita (Transylvania, Romania), Sokacko Malo Kolo (Banat)
	QSQSS	1-2&-3-4&-5&	Ca La Breaza (Romania)

<u>GROUP</u> 2	[Q = 2 beats = 12 S = 3 beats = 123] (Q=Quick, S=Slow)		
<u>Meter</u>	<u>Counting Method 1</u>	<u>Counting Method 2</u>	<u>Examples</u>
5/8	QS	12-123	Mori Odajo (Macedonia), Sarakina (Aegean Macedonia) Dragaicuta (Romania)
5/16	QS	12-123	Pajdusko (Macedonia, Bulgaria), Baiduska (Greece), Rustemul, Paiduca, Cimpoi (Romania)
7/4	1-2-3-4-5-6-7	123-12-12	Maskoto (Macedonia), Tris Fores (Aegean Macedonia)
7/8	SQQ	123-12-12	Pravoto or Lesnoto Oro (Macedonia) ,  Cupurlika (Macedonia) , Kupurlika (Bulgaria), Syrto Kalamatianos (Greece), Cupi Kosturcanki (Macedonia), Sirto (Bulgaria) , 
7/16	1-2-3-4-5-6-7	12-12-123	Eleno Mome (Bulgaria, Macedonia)
	QQS	12-12-123	Racnica (Bulgaria) , Katanka (East Serbia, Bulgaria), Potrcano (Macedonia), Cigancica (Macedonia, East Serbia)
	SQQ	123-12-12	Cetvorno Horo , Panagyursko, Dobro Nevesto, Ripna Maca (Bulgaria), Momirul (Romania)
9/4	QQQS	12-12-12-123	Kumovo Oro (Macedonia)
9/8	QQQS	12-12-12-123	Devetorka (Macedonia, Bulgaria), Niska Banja (Serbia), Karsilimas (Greece, Bulgaria, Turkey), Kjucek (Bulgaria) Varnensko (Bulgaria), Sareni Corapi (Macedonia), Dzanguica (Pirin, Bulgaria)
	QSQQ	12-123-12-12	Fatise Kolo (Serbia-Vranja), Devojce, Devojce (Macedonia) Sto Me Je Milo (Serbia), Katuse Mome, Katuse (Macedonia)
9/16	QQQS	12-12-12-123	Dajcovo Horo , Lilka (Bulgaria), Lile, Lile (Serbia)
	QSQQ	12-123-12-12	Grancarsko Horo (Bulgaria)
11/16	QQSQQ	12-12-123-12-12	Kopanica , Gankino Horo (Bulgaria) , Osagovka (Macedonia), Ovcepolo Oro (Macedonia), Stankino (Aegean Macedonia) Marina (Aegean Macedonia)
	SQQQQ	123-12-12-12-12	Patrunino (Aegean Macedonia), Acano Mlada Nevesto (Macedonia)
	QQQQS	12-12-12-12-123	Neda Voda Nalivala (Bulgaria)
12/16	SQQSQ	123-12-12-123-12	Berance, Bajrace, Pusceno ,  Pusteno, Kucano (Macedonia), Leventikos ,  Pouscheno, Beratiko, Litos (Greece), Neso, Berace (Kosovo, Albania)

	QQSQS	12-12-123-12-123	Dolgoto (Macedonia), Gajda Preshevare (Kosovo)
	QQQSS	12-12-12-123-123	Topansko (Macedonia)
13/16	QQQQQS	12-12-12-12-12-123	Petrunino (Bulgaria)
	SQQQQQ	123-12-12-12-12-12	Elenino Horo (Bulgaria)
	QQQSQQ	12-12-12-123-12-12	Krivo Sadovsko Horo (Bulgaria), Zensko Krsteno (Macedonia)
14/16	QQSQS	12-12-12-123-12-123	Bicak (Bulgaria)
15/16	QQQSQQ	12-12-12-12-123-12-12	Bucimis (Bulgaria)

GROUP 3		Special Combos - [Q = 2 beats = 12 / S = 3 beats = 123] / (Q=Quick, S=Slow)	
Meter	Counting Method 1	Counting Method 2	Examples
1 "Cetvorno" + 1 "Gankino" 7/16 + 11/16	SQQ-QQSQQ	123-12-12 + 12-12-123-12-12	Jove Male Mome (Bulgaria) , Janino Oro (Macedonia)
2 "Cetvornos" + 1 "Gankino" 7/16 + 7/16 + 11/16	SQQ-SQQ-QQSQQ	123-12-12 + 123-12-12 + 12-12-123-12-12	Sedi Donka (East Serbia, Bulgaria, style #1) , Sedi Donka (East Serbia, Bulgaria, style #2)
2 "Dajcovos" + 2 quicks or 1 "Dajcovo" + 1 "Krivo" 9/16 + 13/16	QQQS + QQQS + QQ or QQQS + QQQSQQ	12-12-12-123 + 12-12-12-123 + 12-12 or 12-12-12-123 + 12-12-12-123-12-12	Sandansko Horo (Pirin, Bulgaria)