

Name: **Novozagorsko Horo**
Origin: **Bulgaria**

Source: **Dick Oakes' Folk Dance**
Descriptions

Pronunciation: NOH-voh-zah_GOHRS-koh hoh-ROH.

Translation: Straight dance from Nova Zagora.

Source: Jim Schlesinger first presented this dance at the Kolo Festival in San Francisco, California.

Background: This is a one-figure "military" dance from Nova Zagora in central Bulgaria. It is danced "na lesa," the Bulgarian term for a dance where dancers grasp each other's belts and execute their steps in a straight line. Novozagorsko Horo is described by Boris Tsonev in "Bulgarian Horos and Răčenici," Science and Art Edition, Sofia.

Music: XOPO (45rpm) XEP-308 Danssa (LP) 001 "Bulgarian Folklore Songs and Horos" Slavjani Folklore Society Records (LP) SLA 1000 "Mushko Na Lesa".

Formation: Short lines of mixed M and W with hands holding belts of neighbors, L arm over neighbor's R, elbows mostly relaxed but with a dancer's tension.

Rhythm: 4/4.

Steps/Style: The style is simple, rustic, and unsophisticated.

Introduction: at leader's whim.

Description:

- 1 Facing ctr, step fwd L (ct1);
- 2 Step fwd R (ct 1);
- 3 Jump to both ft apart in place (ct 1); jump to both ft together in place (ct 3);
- 4 Step bwd R (ct 1);
- 5 Step bwd L (ct 1);

- 6 Jump to both ft apart in place (ct 1), jump to both ft together in place (ct 3).
- 7 Leap swd R to R (ct 1), momentarily take wt on ball of L ft in front of R (ct 2); take wt on R in place (ct 3);
- 8 Leap swd L to L (ct 1); momentarily take wt on ball of R ft in front of L (ct 2); take wt on L in place (ct 3);
- 9 Leap R in place raising L knee high with lower leg angled so that L ft is in front of R shin (ct 1); reverse action of ct 1 with opp ftwk (ct 3);
- 10 Repeat action of ct 1, meas 9 (ct 1); leap L in place raising R up to side and slightly back (ct 3).
- 11 Close R to L forcefully with a click (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3); change wt and raise L up to side and slightly back preparing to close (ct 4).
- 12 Reverse action of meas 11 with opp ftwk.
- 13-14 Repeat action of meas 11-12.
- 15 Stamp R next to and slightly fwd of L (ct 1); step back R behind and perpendicular to L heel and simultaneously lift L slightly without turning ft while twisting upper body to face R (ct 3);
- 16 Step L in place turning upper body to face fwd (ct 1); describe small CCW arc close to ground with R bringing it beside L (cts 2-3); lift R ft beside lower part of L calf (ct 4);
- 17 Stamp R next to L taking wt (ct1); stamp L next to R taking wt (ct 3);
- 18 Stamp R next to L taking wt (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3-4).
- 19 Step swd L to L (ct 1); step R across in back of L (ct 3);
- 20 Step swd L to L (ct 1); step R across in back of L (ct 3);
- 21 Step swd L to L (ct 1); lift R knee in front of L (ct 3);
- 22 Step swd R to R (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct 3);
- 23 Step swd R to R (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct 3);
- 24 Step swd R to R (ct 1); leaning slightly fwd raise or flare R leg bwd (ct 3).

Repeat entire dance from beginning.