

## Pokupski Svatovski Drmeš

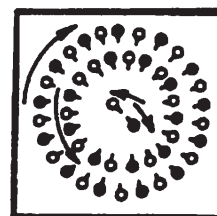
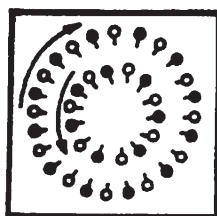
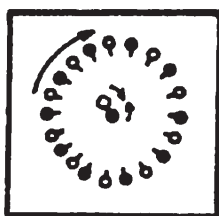
(Pokuplje, Croatia)

The name of the dance is translated as "Pokuplje Wedding Shaking Dance." The region of Pokuplje is a picturesque territory in central Croatia situated near the Kupa River. This dance was originally done during wedding celebrations in a closed reel formation. Accompaniment was traditionally with two violins, bugarija, and bass. Characteristic of this dance is the flag carrier, who leads the wedding procession with a banner, adorned with a girl's red silk kerchief and ribbon, and an apple stuck on top of the staff. The wedding "Drmeš" is accompanied by the song "Samica" (the spinster), sung first by one, then by another, etc. Željko Jergan researched this dance during many weddings and festivals in this region from 1976-1986.

Pronunciation: POH-koop-skee SVAH-tohv-skee DER-mesh

Cassette: Croatian Dances 1998 Side A/4; Croatian Folk Dances Vol. 3, by Jerry Greevich 2/4 meter

Formation: Closed circle of mixed dancers with one couple in the center. An alternate formation is a circle inside a circle, Hands are joined in back-basket hold, L over R.



Styling: Smooth, gliding movements with varying amplitudes of drmeš.

### Meas

### Pattern

#### I. INTRODUCTION AND TRAVEL

- A 1-4 No action.  
 5 Sway R (cts 1, 2).  
 6 Sway L (cts 1, 2).  
 7 Sway R (cts 1, 2).  
 8 Step on L in place (ct 1); step on R in LOD (ct 2).  
 9 In LOD, step on L heel (ct 1); step on R ball of ft (ct 2). (This is done smoothly so head stays level, no up and down movement of body.)  
 10-15 Repeat meas 9 six times.  
 16 Step on L heel (ct 1); hop on L (ct 2). (Cue meas 9-16: 15 gliding steps and 1 hop.)

#### II. IN AND OUT

- B 1 Step on R twd ctr (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2).  
 2 Step on L twd ctr (ct 1); chug bkwd on L (ct 2).  
 3 4 small running steps backing out from ctr: R, L, R, L (cts 1, &, 2, &).  
 4 Small leap onto R in place (ct 1); small leap onto L in place (ct 2).  
 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three more times.

## Pokupski Svatovski Drmeš—continued

## III. TRAVEL

- A 1-8 In RLOD, repeat Fig I, meas 9-16 with opp ftwk (15 gliding steps and 1 hop, starting with R, CW).  
 9-16 In LOD, repeat Fig I, meas 9-16 (15 gliding steps and 1 hop, starting with L, CCW).



## IV. DRMEŠ:STEP, HOP, STEP

- Facing ctr and moving L (CW). Emphasis is up.  
 B 1 Step on R in place, pushing L ft fwd (ct 1); bounce on R with L heel touching floor, wt on both ft (ct 2); step on L slightly to L (ct &).  
 2-8 Repeat meas 1 seven more times.  
 9 In RLOD, step on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2); step on L (ct &)—leaning slightly fwd from waist and facing L while moving, hold R ft near L ankle.  
 10-16 Repeat meas 9 seven more times.

Sequence: Fig I (III) is always on melody A. Fig II and IV alternate on melody B. All together there are six melodies:

Fig I; Fig II; Fig III; Fig IV;  
 Fig III; Fig II; Fig III; Fig IV;  
 Fig III; Fig II; Fig III; Fig IV.

Original description by Željko Jergan and Linda Piron  
 Presented by Željko Jergan

**POKUPSKI SVATOVSKI DRMEŠ**

Brzo *mf* *f* Pokuplje