

Batrineasca

(Romania)

Batrineasca means “the old peoples’ dance.” I learned this dance from Tita Sever, well-known Romanian folk dance researcher and teacher.

Pronunciation:

Music: “Batrineasca” 4/4 meter

Formation: Closed circle, dancers “tightly packed,” that is, very close to each other. Hands joined in high W-pos.

Styling: Bent knees and bent fwd from waist. Stiff movements, upper body following the movement of the ft, emulating in an exaggerated fashion the movements of older people.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION None

I. TO THE L AND BACK

- 1 Facing ctr and moving to the L, step on L to L (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct 2); step on L to L (ct 3); place (with slight stamp) R ft next to L, without wt (ct 4).
- 2 Facing ctr and moving to the R. step on R to R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct &); step on R to R (ct 2); step on L next to R (ct &); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L next to R (ct &); step on R to R and hold (ct 4).
- 3-8 Repeat Meas 1-2 three more times, but (*transition step:*) stamp R ft twd center, pigeon-toed, on last count of fourth time (ct 4 of Meas 8).

II. TO THE R WITH PIGEON-TOED STAMP

- 1 Facing ctr and moving to the R, step on R to R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct &); stamp R ft twd ctr, pigeon-toed (ct 2); repeat cts 1, &, 2 (cts 3,&,4).
- 2 Facing ctr and continuing to the R while bringing hands slowly down to low handhold, step on R to R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct &); step on R to R (ct 2); step on L next to R (ct&); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L next to R (ct &); stamp R ft twd ctr, pigeon-toed, bringing hands sharply back up to high handhold (ct 4).
- 3-8 Repeat Meas 1-2 three more times, but (*transition step:*) simply step on R to R (do not stamp) on last count of fourth time (ct 4 of meas 8).

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Dance notes by Lee Otterholt