

# Te aven baxtale

(Gypsy dance, Romania)

In Romania Gypsies are mentioned for the first time in the 16<sup>th</sup> century in Walachia. From there they migrated to Transylvania and later into West Europe. It is interesting to know that Gypsies in Romania were slaves until the nineteenth century.

Pronunciation: teh ah-VEHN bahf-TAH-leh

Music: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian Realm Vol.1, Band 4*  
*Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, 60th Stockton Folk Dance Camp, Band 5* 2/4 meter

Formation: Mixed circle or couple or individual, hands free, facing center.

Meas Pattern

24 meas INTRODUCTION (no action or improvisation)

## FIGURE 1

- 1 Step on R in place (ct 1); step on L in place (ct &); step on R in place (ct 2); stamp on L in place (no wt) (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk (starting L).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 7 Repeat meas 1.
- 8 Repeat meas 2, do not stamp on R (last &).
- 9 Large step on R to R, body slightly to R (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (ct 2).
- 10 Large step on R to R bending on R knee and body facing ctr (ct 1); turning to face diag L, touch L heel diag L in front (no wt) (ct 2). M may slap L thigh with L hand
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10 with opp ftwk and direction (starting with L).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12.
- 17-20 Repeat meas 5-8.
- 21-24 Repeat meas 9-12.

## FIGURE 2

- 1 Step on R heel twd ctr (ct 1); step on full R ft (ct 2).
  - 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
  - 3-4 Repeat Fig 1, meas 7-8 (starting R).
  - 5 Step bkwd on ball of R ball (ct 1); step on full R ft (ct 2).
  - 6 Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk.
  - 7-8 Repeat Fig 1, meas 7-8.
  - 9-24 Repeat meas 1-8, two more times (3 total).
- Styling: When you hit the floor with the ball of ft (meas 1-2 ct 2) or your heel (meas 5-6 ct 2), you should do it so that the sound is heard.

## Te aven baxtale—continued

Note: Variation for cpls or two concentric circles (inner circle facing out and therefore facing the dancers in the outer circle): One ptr or circle does Fig 2 as described, i.e., moving fwd (meas 1-2) and the other starts by moving bkwd (meas 5-6).

For example: M: (1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8), repeat 3 times.

W: (5-6, 3-4, 1-2, 7-8), repeat 3 times.

**FIGURE 3**

- 1 Standing on L, touch R heel to R (no wt), R leg extend straight (ct 1); standing on L, touch R heel in front (no wt) (ct 2).
- 2 Step on R twd ctr (slightly) (ct 1); step on L behind (slightly) R (ct &); step on R twd ctr (slightly) (ct 2); scuff with L heel (no wt) (ct &).
- 3 Raise L leg (45°) in front, knee bent (45°) (ct 1); stamp L in place (no wt) (ct &); stamp L in place (with wt) (ct 2).
- 4-6 Repeat meas 1-3.
- 7 Repeat meas 1.
- 8 Step bkwd on R (ct 1); step bkwd on L (ct 2).
- 9-24 Repeat meas 1-8, two more times (3 total).

Variation for couples: This figure (Fig 3) can be done facing your ptr, each of you turning around the other (CCW).

Variations for two concentric circles (inner circle facing out and therefore facing the dancers in the outer circle): While doing this figure (Fig 3), move slightly to R; because everyone moves to their R, they will have someone new opp them each time. You may also choose to turn around the person opp you.

## Sequence:

Intro. + F1 + F2 + F3 +

F1 + F2 + F3 +

F1 (Final: last meas; (1) Fall on both ft together (“Assemblé”).

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