

CIBARSKA KOPANICA (Tsibarska Kopanitsa)

(Bulgaria)

**TRANSLATION
AND
BACKGROUND**

Kopanica from the town of Cibar (Tsibar) in Northwest Bulgaria, Severnjaško.

The word kopanica is derived from the verb kopaja (to dig).

In dance and music terminology, kopanica means a folk dance in 11/8 [or 11/16] meter (2-2-3-2-2) and is also the name of its basic step.

Characteristic for this variant of kopanica is the 3-measure structure of its basic pattern and variations. They are performed to a musical accompaniment consisting of a 4 + 4- measure musical phrase. As a result, there is no synchronization between the music and dance phrasing, which is a common feature in the relationship between dance and musical accompaniment in Bulgaria.

Other 11/8 dances from North and Northwest Bulgaria with a 3-measure dance pattern are: Gankino and Lamba Lamba.

MUSIC:

LP/Cassette "Folk Dances from Bulgaria" – volume 4,
JL1988.02 by Jaap Leegwater, side B, band 8

METER:

11/8 !! !! !!! !! !!
 Q Q S Q Q
 1 2 3 4 5

STYLE:

Severnjaški: Light, bouncy and jumpy

SOURCE:

Learned from the Bulgarian choreographer and dance instructor Dimitâr Dojčinov, who introduced the dance at the "Nevo – Eastern Camp" in the Netherlands in 1978.

FORMATION:

Half circle or lines. Hands in belt-hold position.

INTRODUCTION:

The slow rubato melody (bavna melodija)

The first dancer usually indicates how many times each pattern is repeated.

MEAS PATTERN Part 1 "OSNOVNO" (Basic)

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R ft sdwd R (ct 1),
 step on L ft behind R ft (ct 2),
 step on R ft fwd (ct 3),
 hop or čukče on R ft (ct 4),
 step back on L ft in place (ct 5)
- 2 Step on R ft fwd (ct 1),
 step on L ft bkwd (ct 2),
 step on R ft bkwd, turning L leg out to the side (ct 3),
 close L ft with a sharp click, without wt, against R ft (ct 4),] Hlopka L
 fall onto L ft, turning R leg out to the side (ct 5)
- 3 Close R ft with a sharp click against L ft, wt equally on both ft (ct 1),] Hlopka R
 fall onto L ft, lifting R knee in front (ct 2),
 ! small hop on L ft and
 !! strike R heel next to L toes (ct 3),
 leap onto R ft sdwd R (ct 4),
 step on L ft in front of R ft (ct 5)

CIBARSKA KOPANICA (continued)

Part 2 "POČIVKA" (Rest)

- 1 Repeat action of meas 1 of Part 1
- 2 Repeat action of meas 2 (ct 1-4) of Part 1,
hold (ct 5)
- 3 Hold (ct 1-2),
repeat action of meas 3 (ct 3-5) of Part 1

Part 3 KOSIČKA (Flick)

- 1 Repeat action of meas 1 of Part 1
- 2 Step on R ft in place (ct 1),
step on L ft in place (ct 2),
flick R leg in a fast and sharp movement across in front of the L leg (ct 3),
turning body to face diag L, close R ft with a sharp click against L ft,
wt equally on both ft (ct 4),] Hlopka R
fall onto L ft sdwd L, turning R leg out to the side (ct 5)
- 3 Close R ft with a sharp click against L ft, wt equally on both ft (ct 1),] Hlopka R
fall onto L ft sdwd L, lifting R knee in front (ct 2),
! hop on L ft and
!! strike R heel next to R toes (ct 3),
step on R ft (ct 4),
extend L leg fwd low (ct 5)
- 4 Facing ctr, moving slightly diag R bkwd,
hop on R ft, swinging L leg in a small arc bkwd (ct 1),
step on L ft behind R ft (ct 2),
step on R ft, extending L leg fwd low (ct 3),
hop on R ft, swinging L leg in small arc bkwd (ct 4),
step on L ft behind R ft (ct 5)

Part 4 "NAPRED" (Forward)

- 1 Repeat action of meas 1 of Part 1
- 2 Step on R ft in place (ct 1),
step on L ft in place (ct 2),
facing ctr, moving fwd twd ctr, hop on L ft,
swinging R leg straight, fwd low and across in front of L leg (ct 3),
leap onto R ft, swinging L leg straight, fwd and across in front of R leg (ct 4-5)
- 3 Turning to face diag L, leap onto L ft in demi-plié (ct 1),
strike R heel with straight R leg in front (ct 2),
hop on L ft, turning R leg sdwd out (ct 3),
close R ft with a sharp click against L ft, wt equally on both ft (ct 4),] Hlopka R
fall onto L ft sdwd L, turning R leg out to the side (ct 5)
- 4-5 Repeat action of meas 3-4 of Part 3