

NARODNO HORO

(Bulgaria)

Pronunciation	Nah- <u>rrod</u> -noh Hoh- <u>rroh</u> (folk/people's/national round dance)
Notes	Due to the names of tunes for this dance, the "straight" musical rhythm and the dance's overall progression to the right (CCW), this dance most likely entered Bulgaria from the north. It subsequently became known throughout the country. The dance has the same step pattern as Eleno Mome and Kopanica, but the starting point in the pattern (Eleno Mome) and the rhythm (Kopanica) are different. Other names for this dance are Dumbazko Horo (merchant's round dance), Dunavski Horo (Danube round dance), Makedonsko Narodno (Macedonian people), Nestinarsko Horo (fire-dancer's round dance), Pravo Horo/Pravoto Horo (straight round dance/the straight round dance), Radino Horo (Rada's round dance), Svishtovsko Horo (round dance from Svishtov), Tärnovsko Horo (round dance from Tärnov, ancient capital of Bulgaria, now called Veliko Tärnov), Uchenichesko Horo (student's round dance). The suffix "-to" (meaning "the -") is occasionally affixed to these names, e.g., Horoto = The Horo, Pravoto = The Pravo.
Formation	Lines with leaders at R ends. Handhold is any that dancers desire or permit. The leader frequently waves and twirls overhead a knotted handkerchief in his/her right hand.
Music	XOPO 45-303; Nasha Pesen 595 (LP); "Dances of the World's Peoples Volume 1," Smithsonian Folkways Records 06501 (LP) (also online mp3); "Kailashko Horo," Folk Dances of North Bulgaria, Gega GD 268 (CD).

Dance Pattern

Measure	<u>Variation #1</u>
1	Step-hop to R onto R foot.
2	Step-hop to R onto L foot.
3	Step to R onto R foot; step behind R foot onto L foot.
4	Step to R onto R foot; kick L foot forward or stamp L foot.
5	Step to L onto L foot; step behind L foot onto R foot.
6	Step to L onto L foot; kick R foot forward or stamp R foot.
	<u>Variation #2</u>
1	Step to R onto R foot; step behind R foot onto L foot
2	Step to R onto R foot; step in front of R foot onto L foot.
3	Step to R onto R foot; step behind R foot onto L foot.
4	Step to R onto R foot; kick L foot forward or stamp L foot.
5	Step to L onto L foot; step behind L foot onto R foot.
6	Step to L onto L foot; kick R foot forward or stamp R foot.
	<u>Variation #3</u>
1-3	Run 6 steps to R, starting with R foot.
4	Run to R onto R foot; kick L foot forward or stamp L foot.
5	Run 2 steps to L, starting with L foot.
6	Run to L onto L foot; kick R foot forward or stamp R foot.

Note: Variations such as two-steps, grapevines, twirls, hesitations, squats, dancing into and out of the center and dancing in place have been described. Joined hands are sometimes swung forward on count 1 of the measure and backward on count 2 of the measure. Also, as found in dances throughout the world, as the music gets faster, the steps get smaller.

Dance description re-created by Franklin Houston on 10/12/2012.