

# Kahuli

(Hawaii)

Hawaiian dance.

Pronunciation:

Starting Position: Sitting cross-legged, fists at waist.

Music: Kahuli

4/4 meter

Meas	Arm movements
1	Move both arms to basic ready position: L arm, palm down in front of body, not crossing center line. R arm, palm down, extended to R side.
2	Repeat meas 1 in opp direction.
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2.
5	L fist returns to waist. Body slightly leaning fwd. R arm, palm down, moves out in front of R knee, slightly above floor. R hand, parallel to the floor, makes small wave in and out, in and out.
6	Reverse meas 5 in opp direction.
7	Both hands move in front to floor as if "picking up something." Hands then move up behind head as if putting on a lei.
8	Bring arms down to sides of body and end in front above waist level (pick up lei) and push arms out, palms up (holding lei).
10	Move arms, palms down, by R knee and make 2 wave motions with waves going out slightly to R. Reverse arms.
11	Move arms to floor in front, : "pick up flower," and bring R arm, palm up, extended nearly straight to 45 degrees front. Bring L arm, palm up, about R elbow height but in front of body about 45 degrees, about shldr width apart (picking up flower and showing it).
12	Reverse meas 11.
13	Move L arm to basic position. Move R arm, palm down, out to R side, circle to front, and in (side, front, center).
14	Reverse meas 13.
15-16	Reverse meas 1-2.
17-18	Repeat meas 13-14. Add body moving and bending to circle the same direction as the arms.
19-20	Repeat meas 1-2.
21-22	Repeat meas 17-18.
23-24	Repeat meas 1-2.
25-40	Repeat meas 5-20.
41-42	Repeat meas 17-18.
43	Repeat meas 1.
44	Arms move from sides to straight out front at chest level, palms down.

## He Oli no Kailua—continued

Kahuli aku	Turn little shell
Kahuli mai	Turn this way little shell
Kahuli lei ula	The tree shell is a red ornament in
Lei akolea	The lei of the akolea fern
Kolea, kolea	Little bird, little bird
Ki'i ka wai	Go down to the stream
Wai akolea	Sip the sweet nectar
Wai akolea	From the akolea fern



Source: This chant was set to music by Winona Beamer. The kahuli (tree snails) or pup kaniōe (land shells) are the singing snails of legend. The shells chirp in the evening and ask the birds to bring them a drink of water. The kolea is the Pacific Golden Plover (*pluvialis dominca*) that migrates to Hawaii in late August, stays until April, then returns home to Alaska and Siberia. The endemic snails, once numbering 35-40 different species, with their colorful patterns and designs were once abundant on all islands, but are rapidly declining and are now found only in mountain forests. The ground dwelling snail (*amastridae*) number only about 12 species as compared to the 300 species a century ago. The pupmoeone, found only on Niihau and Kaua'i live underground in sand dunes far removed from the ocean.

[http://www.huapala.org/Kahuli\\_Aku.html](http://www.huapala.org/Kahuli_Aku.html)

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