

Shoror

Armenia

Shoror (shohr-OHR) literally means a to and fro movement of the torso. Shoror is a very general name, there are many dances with this name, sometimes a region is added, i.e. Erzeroumi shoror (Shoror from Erzeroum) or Shatagi shoror (Shoror from Shatag) etc., to make a distinction.

In general they are slow dances in a 6/4 measure, not necessarily for women. Distinctive is the frequently executed step with bounces of the knees on the cnt. 1 & 3, 4 & 6. This particular Shoror, for women, was choreographed and taught by Paylak Sarkisian, in May 2007. Sarkisian is a researcher and choreographer of great fame in Armenia. He is one of many teachers Tineke has studied with in Armenia. Presented by Tineke van Geel at Stockton Folk Dance Camp, 2008.

CD: *Barev Armenian Dances*, Band 1.

Video: Tineke van Geel, Stockton Folk Dance Camp, 2008

Formation: Closed or semi circle, little fingers interlocked with arms in W-pos, forearms forward at about 45 degrees, at chest level, facing ctr.

Styling: Step and bounce: Characteristic are the double knee bounces—on cts 1 and 3, 4 and 6 the knees are bent, bouncing at every step, knees bent (down, up, down, up - four movements of equal length on cts 1, 3, 4 and 6. When arms move to R, lean upper body slightly to L and watch R hand. Reverse body movement when arms move L.
Sway: Slow, graceful and bouncing. Starting with hip then shoulders, letting arms and hands flow with the motion. The whole body rolls into the movement.

Measure	6/4 meter	PATTERN
4+ meas	<u>INTRODUCTION</u> : Flute solo plus 4 measures. Arms down, raise on last meas.	
	<u>I. A SWAY</u>	
1	Sway and bounce on R to R, arms moving slightly to R (cts 1-3); close and bounce L beside R, arms coming back to orig pos (cts 4-6).	
2	Sway and bounce on R to R, arms moving slightly to R (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of L ft beside R, arms coming back to orig pos (cts 4-6).	
3	Sway and bounce on L to L (cts 1-3); sway and bounce on R to R (cts 4-6).	
4	Sway and bounce on L to L (cts 1-3); bounce and touch on ball of R ft beside L (cts 4-6); arms come down to V-pos (ct 6).	
	<u>I. B IN AND TURN LEFT</u>	
5	Sway and bounce on R to ctr, R ft and body turn diag L, arms come to W-pos (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of L ft beside R (cts 4-6).	
6	Step back on L, arms come back to V-pos, facing ctr (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of R ft beside L (cts 4-6).	
7	Release hands and make a full turn CCW with 6 walking steps, starting with R ft crossing over L, L forearm in front of waist, R arm extended sdwd, palms face up.	
8	Big step fwd to ctr on R, R knee strongly bent (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of L ft beside R (cts 4-6) arms back to W-pos with little fingers interlocked.	

II. A CIGARETTE (LONG FIGURE) (Meas 3 looks a bit like putting out a cigarette.)

- 1-2 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-2.
3 Bounce and touch ball of L ft in front of R to floor, L knee turned inwards, arms slightly moving to L (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of L ft in front of R to floor, L knee turned outwards, arms coming back to orig pos (cts 4-6).
4 Sway and bounce on L to L (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of R ft beside L (cts 4-6).

II. B GRAPEVINE **Note:** No bouncing in meas 5 & 6.

- 5 Step on R to R (cts 1-3); step on L across behind R (cts 4-6).
6 Step on R to R (cts 1-3); step on L across over R (cts 4-6).
Arm movement during meas 5-6: Arms start slightly above waist height and circle to the R finishing with L arm sdwd to L (waist level), R arm in front of waist (arms parallel). Face L arm, still holding little fingers.

II. C CIGARETTE (SHORT FIGURE)

- 7 Sway and bounce on R to R, arms in W-pos moving slightly to R (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of L ft beside R (cts 4-6).
8 Bounce and touch ball of L ft in front of R to floor, L knee turned inwards, arms slightly moving to L (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of L ft in front of R to floor, L knee turned outwards, arms coming back to orig pos (cts 4-6).

III. HARLEY DAVIDSON (Hands and arms positioned like riding a motorcycle.)

- 1 Step on L across over R, hands make a downward turn at the wrist only, L knee is strongly bent (cts 1-2); step on ball of R ft to R, hands back up to orig pos (ct 3); step on L across over R, hands make a downward turn at the wrist only, L knee strongly bent (ct 4-5); step on ball of R ft to R, hands back up to orig pos (ct 6).
2 Step on L across over R, hands make a downward turn at the wrist only, L knee is strongly bent (cts 1-2); step on ball of R ft to R, hands back up to orig pos (ct 3); step on L across over R, hands make a downward turn at the wrist only, L knee strongly bent (ct 4-5); no action (ct 6).
3 Release hands and make a full turn CW with 6 walking steps starting with R to the R, R forearm in front of waist, L arm extended sdwd. Palms face up
4 Big step fwd to ctr with R, R knee strongly bent (cts 1-3); bounce and touch ball of L ft beside R (cts 4-6) arms coming back to W-pos with little fingers interlocked.

SEQUENCE:

Fig I, Fig II, Fig III,
Fig I, Fig II, Fig III, Fig III
Fig I, Fig II, Fig III,
Fig I, Fig I, meas 1 (cts 1-6);
Fig I, meas 2: step on R to R (ct. 1); hold (ct 2-5); step on L across over R with L knee strongly bent (ct 6). Both arms circle R to finish with L arm sdwd to L (waist level), R arm in front of waist (arms parallel). Face L arm, still holding little fingers.

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