

16 COUNT TSAMICO  
(Greek)

Learned by

Learned from T. Petrides, New York City, by S. Newman.

Music: Record: Any Tsamico

Formation: Line, hands held at shoulder height, leader on R end.

Meter: 3/4 The meter of this dance is sometimes thought to be more complex than a simple 3/4 time because of the minor rhythmical emphasis on cts 1& and 2, and the major emphasis on cts 1 and 3. Cts 1 and 3 are the cts which are necessary for the development of the dance, but check the notes at the end for the rhythmical embellishments.

This dance is called the 16 Count Tsamico to differentiate between it and the more common Tsamico, or 12 ct Tsamico. (see notes at end on cts). This Tsamico is probably the oldest version of the dance known today. It was originally done this way by the Tsams and was obviously simplified to the shorter 12 ct version common wherever Greeks dance.

Measures

Pattern

Starting pos: Wt on L, R toe touching floor in front of L.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Step R to R (ct 1), hold (ct 2), swing body and L ft slightly to R and step L across R (ct 3).   |
| 2 | Point R toe on floor twd ctr (ct 1), hold (ct 2), close R to L (ct 3).   |
| 3 | Point L toe on floor twd L (ct 1), hold (ct 2), swing and step L across R (ct 3).  |
| 4 | Step R to R (ct 1), bring L up behind R almost knee high (ct 2), hop on R (ct 3).  |
| 5 | Step L to L (ct 1), hold (ct 2), swing body and R ft slightly to L and step R across L (ct 3).   |
| 6 | Step L to L (ct 1), bring R knee high across in front of L (ct 2), Hop L (ct 3). NOTE: From knee down, the leg hangs freely. W raise knee only slightly. |
| 7 | Step R to R (ct 1), hold (ct 2), step L across R (ct 3).   |
| 8 | Point R toe on floor to R (ct 1), hold (ct 2), touch R toe on floor in front of L (ct 3), as in starting pos.  |

NOTE: If you count only the 1st and 3rd cts of each meas which are the step cts, you can easily determine why this dance is referred to as the 16 ct Tsamico when really there are 8 meas, or 24 cts.

NOTE: On meas 1, 3, 5, 7 it is possible to use the rhythmical embellishments of cts 1, &, 2 by shifting the wt, without lifting the ft, in the manner of a "two-step" thus:

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|---|--|
| 1 | Step R to R (ct 1), shift wt to L (ct &), shift wt to R (ct 2), cross L over R (ct 3)<br>Simply adapt this embellishment to meas 3, 5, 7 with whichever ft is leading. |
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Presented by: Oliver (Sonny) Newman