

Cicerennella

History: This dance is better known as the “Neapolitan Tarantella” (one of many Italian Tarantellas), and during the Middle Ages, it was reputed to have the magic power to ward off the effects of the poisonous spider — the tarantula, hence its name.

Formation: Couples in double circle, partners facing each other, M w/backs to center. W has tambourine in L hand.

Measure	PART 1	PART 3
1–4	Facing partners, do “pas de bas”, starting to own R (R, L, R, L). This may be described as a “step-swing” (step on R, hop on R, swinging L across in front, then do same on L, and REPEAT both)	1–4 Bending FWD w/arms extended FWD, partners take 4 steps FWD. They straighten up, take 4 steps BKWD
5–8	Place R arm around partner’s waist, and L hand high, do 4 step-hops (R, L, R, L), turning once CW	5–8 They walk FWD, do a R-shoulder Dos-si-dos, back-to-back w/8 steps
9–16	REPEAT action of 1–8	9–16 REPEAT action of 1–8, with a L-shoulder Dos-si-dos
	PART 2	PART 4
1–4	Couples face CCW, inside hands joined. M takes 8 steps in place as W runs FWD and around him, passing joined hands over his head, in 8 steps	1–8 In closed dance position, couples do 6 polka steps, turning and travelling CCW, W twirls under M’s L hand.
5–8	Partners do “pas de bas” (step-swing) apart (M’s L, W’s R), and together (M’s R, W’s L), and then turn completely away- M to L and L to R w/4 steps	9–16 Polka and twirl and end are REPEATED
9–16	REPEAT action of 1–8	NOTE: Tambourine should be shaken throughout the dance to mark rhythm, and struck to accent musical phrase or melody