

Köröglu

Origin: Köröglu (Kur-oh-loo), translated “Son of the Blind Man”, was a hero who lived in the northwestern mountains in Turkey, like Robin Hood, in the 17th century. When Köröglu was ten years old, he worked with his father as a blacksmith for a cruel governor of the city of Bolu. For a little mistake Köröglu’s father made, the tyrannic governor ordered his father blinded with hot tongs. Köröglu saw this happen to his father and made a solemn vow to avenge his father’s blindness by challenging the despotic governor. Today, this ballad is popular throughout Turkey and is played at every festive occasion. The words of this long, story-telling song promote the idea of how to be a brave man when in a difficult situation and your people need help. This dance was first introduced in London in May 1985 by E. Kiliç.

Formation: Circle, beginning with hands free *Rhythm:* 5/4

Measure	Count	FIG. 1
1	1, 2	Facing center, arms comfortably extended to both side, step R in LOD and snap fingers
	3, 4, 5	Cross and step L in front of R, bending both knees slightly, crossing arms at wrists in front of the body, and snapping fingers
2	1, 2	Extending arms to side, step and sway to R on ball of R, snapping fingers
	3, 4, 5	Sway to L, taking weight on ball of L and snapping fingers (arms still extended at sides)
3–16	—	REPEAT measures 1 & 2

		FIG. 2
1	1, 2	Join hands, arms in W position and step into center on R bending both knees slightly, and extending arms FWD
	3, 4, 5	Step back on L, bringing arms back to W position
2	1, 2	Step BKWD on R, bouncing arms once in W position
	3, 4, 5	Cross and step L in front of R, bouncing arms once
3–18	—	REPEAT measures 1 & 2

DANCE REPEATS UNTIL MUSIC ENDS