

# LAKODALMI TANC

*Origin:* The wedding is one of the most important milestones in a young person's life. For the young girl this is the step to womanhood. The wedding day is full of sorrow and happiness. The young bride experiences several traditional ceremonies, during which time her girlfriends sing and dance around her. Lakodalmi Tanc (Lah-koh-dahl-mee Tanhnts) is one of the many variations of this type of dance.

*Source:* Based on research done by Andor Czompo in Hungary.

*Formation:* W in one circle, in a front cross-hold position. R arms are on top. W also hold a white handkerchief in their R hands. This dance is very solemn and lyrical.

*Basic steps and motifs:*

Some of the steps and motifs are described in terms of measures or counts. This is indicated by the letter M or C beside the count or measure in the dance description.

## 1) FORWARD-SIDE STEP (each of these is a measure of 3 counts)

- M1 Step on the R foot FWD
  - 2 Step on the L foot BKWD
  - 3 Step on the R foot to the R side
  - 4 Close the L foot to the R foot, taking weight.
- REPEAT the same way.

*NOTE: This is a simple slow movement without any special knee-bend or bounce.*

## 2) SLOW WALK FORWARD AND BACK

- M1 Turning the hips slightly to the R, step on the R foot FWD in LOD
  - 2 Step on the L foot FWD
  - 3 Step on the R foot FWD
  - 4 Step on the L foot BKWD
- REPEAT the same way.

*NOTE: Follow a natural walking style.*

## 3) SIDE CROSS STEP (hesitation)

- M1 Step on the R foot to the R side
  - 2 Step on the ball of the L foot behind the R foot in 5th position
  - Step w/the R foot in front of the L foot in 5th position
  - REPEAT with opposite footwork (symmetrical)
- NOTE: In measure 2, the two steps are done equally over three counts.

## 4) GRAPEVINE

- C1 Step on the R foot across in front of the L foot
  - 2 Step on the L foot to the L side
  - 3 Step on the R foot across in back of the L foot
  - 4 Step on the L foot to the L side
- REPEAT the same way

*NOTE: These are smooth, continuous steps. On each cross-step, bend the knee slightly. The hips naturally follow the movement of the R foot.*



# ...LAKODALMI TANC CONTINUED

## 5) TURN

With 4 walking steps, make a complete turn in a small circle to the R (CW), starting R foot.

## 6) SIDE STEP AND RIDA

- M1 Step on the R foot to the R side  
2-3 Do two open Rida steps to the L  
4 Step on the L foot to the L side.  
REPEAT the same way. In measure 1, shift the weight from the L foot to the R foot.

## 7) SLOW WALK AND FAST GRAPEVINE

- M1 Step FWD on the R foot in LOD  
2 Step FWD on the L foot in LOD  
3 Facing center of the circle, step on the R foot to the R side. Step on the L foot behind R foot.  
4 Step on the R foot to the R side. Step on the L foot in front of R foot.

## 8) FINALE

- C1 Step on the R foot to the R side  
2 Step on the L foot behind the R foot w/knee-bend  
3 Step on the R foot to the R side.  
4 Close the L foot to the R foot, bowing slightly FWD.

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## THE DANCE!

### Measures

### PART 1 - Melody A

- 1-16 Do 4 FWD-SIDE motifs (#1)  
REPEAT melody A  
1-12 Do 3 Slow Walk FWD and BACK motifs (#2)  
13-16 Do 2 Side-Cross steps (hesitation) (#3)

### PART 2 - Melody B

- 1-4 Do 2 Grapevine steps (#4)  
5-6 Do the Turn motif (#5)  
*NOTE: Release the hand hold and turn out from the circle w/ the first steps. Lead the turn w/the R hand passing neighbour smoothly. The turn is definitely a small circle, so do not pivot in place.*  
7-8 Do 2 single csardas steps (upbeat) to the R and L; at the same time, resume original hand-hold (front cross-hold)

### PART 3 - Melody A

- 1-16 Do 4 Side Step and Rida motifs (#6)  
REPEAT melody A  
1-16 Do 4 Slow Walk and Fast Grapevine motifs (#7)

### FINALE

- 1-4 Do 2 Grapevine steps (#4)  
*NOTE: The music gradually slows down. Follow the change in the tempo.*  
5-6 Do the Turn motif (#5) with slow steps  
7-8 Do the Final motif (#8)

If the dancers learn to hum or sing the melodies, it can be done without the recorded music. This gives a lot of original flavour to the dance.