

IBRAIM ODŽA – VELEŠKO
(Veles, Macedonia)

This is an “urban” version of the popular Macedonian/Kosovar dance *Ibrahim Odža* in an 11/16 medley. It comes from the town of Veles on the Vardar River in Macedonia.

Recording: Workshop CD

Formation: Open circle with “W” hold, or “T” shoulder hold for men

Change from “W” to “V” hold when music speeds up at the end

Music: 11/16 ♩. ♩ ♩ ♩ ♩

Dancer’s Cts: 1 2 3 4 5 (S, Q, Q, Q, Q)

Basic:

Meas:

- 1 Facing center, lift on Lft and raise Rft up and in front of L shin/knee (ct 1); turning to face slightly R of center, bounce on Lft and swing Rft to R (Rft may touch floor) (ct 2); Step/transfer wt onto Rft (ct 3); Step Lft fwd in front of Rft (ct 4); Step Rft fwd to R (ct 5);
- 2 Step Lft fwd to R (ct 1); Lift slightly on Lft as Rft move fwd and through (ct 2); Step Rft fwd and turn to face center (ct 3); Step Lft across and front of Rft slightly twd center (ct 4); Step Rft back to place (ct 5);
(cue: lift, lift, step, walk, walk, step, lift, step, cross, back)
- 3-4 Reverse action of meas 1-2 (ftwk and direction) dancing back to L;
- 5 Facing center, Lift on Lft and raise Rft up in front (ct 1); Bounce on Lft and swing Rft to R side (may touch floor) (ct 2); Step Rft to R side (ct 3); Step Lft across and in front of Rft twd center (ct 4); Step Rft back to place (ct 5);
(cue: lift, lift, step, cross, back)
- 6 Reverse action (ftwk and direction) of meas 5;
- 7-8 Repeat action of meas 5-6.

Variations: Do **Basic** with the following changes.

A) **One turn in Meas 1** - only done during travel to R

Meas 1: Do full Turn to R during cts 3-5 (step, walk, walk)

B) **One turn in Meas 2** - only done during travel to R

Meas 2: Do full Turn to R during cts 1-2 (step, lift)

C) **Two turns** - only done during travel to R

Combine Turns in Variation A and B

D) **Kneeling** - only done during travel to R

Combine Turn in Variation A with kneeling replacing (cross, back)

Meas 1: Turn during cts 3-5

Meas 2: Kneel onto R knee with Lft fwd (facing R of center) (ct 4);
Raise up onto Rft (Lft up in front) (ct 5)

E) **Twist twist**

Replace all (cross, back) steps with touching toe forward twice.

Meas 2,5: Facing center, touch Lft fwd with Lft knee/hip turned in (ct 4);
Bounce on Rft and straighten L knee/leg (ct 5)

Meas 4,6: Same as Meas 2,5 with opposite ftwk

Presented by Stephen Kotansky