

PREPLET ("Mangupsko kolo")  
(Serbia)

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"Preplet" (Preh-plet) as described here was learned in Yugoslavia by Dick Crum in 1954 from Miodrag Vuković, a fine young dancer from the village of Brus in Serbia. It is actually a fixed sequence of typical local "U šest" variations as done by the village "guys" ("mangupi"), and hence is sometimes called "Mangupsko (Mahn-goop-sko) kolo". In the past twenty years the dance has become popular among exhibition groups all over Yugoslavia, with the inevitable addition of new figures and choreographic effects.

RECORD: KP 406-B

FORMATION: Dancers (originally men only) in open circle or line with hands joined down at sides ("V" formation). Leader's and end-man's hands held either at small of back, in a pocket, or grasping vest.

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PATTERN

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Meas.

VARIATION I - Running steps and hold

- 1-2 8 tiny running steps R, as follows: facing slightly R, low short leap onto R toe to R (ct 1), lightly stepping on ball of L, close L to R a bit fwd (L arch at R toe) (ct &), repeat above movements 3 more times for total of 8 running steps, ending with wt on L on the last ct & of meas 2.
- 3 Facing ctr, step (on ball of) R, flexing R knee emphatically (ct 1), hold (ct &), step L in place (ct 2), step R in place (ct &).
- 4 Bring heels together (no "click") and down with emphasis (ct 1), hold for remainder of meas.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat Variation I.

VARIATION II - Grapevine and three's

- 1 Facing ctr, step R to R (ct 1), step L behind R (ct &), step R to R (ct 2), step L in front of R (ct &).
- 2 Step R to R (ct 1), step L behind R (ct &), step R to R (ct 2).
- 3 Step L in place (ct 1), step R behind L (ct &), step L in place (ct 2).
- 4 Step R in its pos behind L (ct 1), step L in its pos in front of R (ct &), again step R in its pos behind L (ct 2).

PREPLET ("mangupsko kolo"), Cont'd.

Meas.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.

9-16 Repeat Variation II.

VARIATION III - Hop-step-steps and slice

1 Facing slightly and moving R, low light hop on L (ct 1), short step with R in this direction (ct &), close L to R a bit fwd (L arch at R toe) (ct 2).

2-3 Repeat meas 1, 2 more times for a total of 3 times, continue to move to R.

4 Facing ctr, and, bringing R from a preliminary position high out to side where R knee was bent, sharply "slice" R down into a pos in front of L and put wt on R (ct 1), step L in its own pos behind R (ct &), step R in its pos in front of L (ct 2).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.

9-16 Repeat Variation III.

Note on Styling: "Preplet" is done in a style typical of the Samadija region of Serbia. This includes very erect posture from the knees up, constant gentle flexions of the knees in on-bent steps, predonimance of steps on toes and balls of feet over those involving the heels, and preference for vertical, up-and-down movements rather than covering a lot of ground.

Presented by Dick Crum

Laguna Beach Institute, Feb., 1975