

# AJNZERICA (ENZERICA)

Croatia

This lively dance is from the Croatian region of Zagorje, located in the northwestern part of Croatia, near Zagreb. According to the legends told by old villagers in Marija Bistrica (a town known for pilgrimages to its sanctuary of Marija Bistrica), Gypsy musicians from around the town of Varazdin played Ajnzerica (Enzerica) for church festivities. Local villagers took the dance and music back to their own villages, where it is still danced at weddings and holiday festivities.

The dance was researched by Zeljko Jergan in the village of Mace, near Marija Bistrica in 1979.

The circle version of this dance was presented by Zeljko Jergan, at the 1995 Santa Barbara Symposium. The cpl version was presented at workshops in southern California during January of 1996

TRANSLATION: A nonsensical word

PRONUNCIATION: EIN-zeh-ree-tsah

CASSETTE: Jerry Grcevich, Croatian Folk Dances, Vol. I, side A/6

FORMATION: Individuals in a circle, facing ctr.

STEPS: Polka: Flat-footed two-steps .small leap on L (at 1); step R-L with small running style steps (cts &-2). This step can be done moving fwd, bkwd, or turning.

Cpl polka:

When turning as a cpl, the upper body bends slightly sdwd L when beg the polka with L ft. and bends sdwd R when beg with R ft.

Arm pos: Cpls join in shldr shldr-blade pos. W hands are on M shldrs, M hands high on W shldr blades. The arms are rounded at shldr ht (as if holding a beach ball), W arms are touching M arms).

Jumps: All jumps are flat footed, and done with slightly bent knees.

HANDS: When M hands are free, they are low on the hip with fingers fwd while W hands are on the waist with fingers fwd.

STYLE: Ftwk small, close to floor, and flat footed.

METER: 2/4

## PATTERN:

Meas.

**INTRODUCTION:** None

### **PART I:**

- 1-4 8 claps with hands at approx chest ht.  
5-8 With hands on hips and facing ctr .do 8 jumps on both ft in place, turning 1/4 R (CW) on each jump. (2 per meas)

Note: 8 jumps =2 complete turns. This is optional, if you wish to do 1/2 turns that is ok also. The jumps are heavy, flat footed with ft slightly apart.

- 9-12 Do 8 jumps on both ft in place turning L (CCW).  
13-14 Facing ctr .do 3 jumps. with accent, on both ft in place (option, turn R once). Stamp R ft 3 times in place without wt (cts 1-2-1). hold (Ct 2).

### **PART II:**

- 1 Facing ctr, join hands in "V" pos .step R to R (ct 1); close L to R with wt (Ct 2).  
2 Jump onto both ft in place (ct 1); step L to L (Ct 2).  
3 R moves twd L, then steps fwd twd ctr (ct &-1); close L to R (Ct 2).  
4 Step R to R (ct 1); close L to R (Ct 2).  
5 Jump onto both ft in place (Ct 1); step L bkwd (Ct 2).  
6 Jump bkwd on R as L closes to R. landing on both ft (ct 1); jump in place on both ft again (ct 2).  
7 Step R to R (Ct 1); close L to R (Ct 2).  
8 Step R to R (Ct 1); close L (ct 2).  
9-14 Repeat meas 1-6.  
15-16 Stamp R 3 times slightly fwd, or jump onto both ft 3 times with accent (cts 1-2-1); hold (Ct 2).  
17-32 Repeat meas 1-16. (2 times in all)

### **FIG. III**

When doing this figure as a cpl dance, W use opp flwk.

- 1-3 Moving fwd twd ctr .beg L do 3 polka steps, alternating ftwk.  
4 Jump fwd onto both ft. ft slightly apart, knees bent (ct 1); hold (Ct 2).  
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, beg R and moving bkwd.  
9 Small leap on L slightly to L (cts 1); step R,L in place (cts &-2).  
Cpls .Turn slightly twd ptr .MR and WL hands move slightly bkwd.

Note:

- 10 Ftwk is flat footed.  
Repeat meas 9 with opp ftwk.  
Cpls .Turn to face ctr.  
11-12 Jump 3 times (flat footed) in place or stamp L ft 3 times slightly fwd (cts 1-2-1); hold (Ct 2).  
13-24 Repeat meas 1-12 (2 times in all)

**INTERLUDE:**

- 1-2 During the 4 Ct pause in the music, yell: “repeté” (reh-peh-teh) which translates “more” (actually, “repeat”) in French, you may also Clap 3 times (cts 1-2-1); hold (Ct 2).

**CIRCLE VERSION OF DANCE**

**REPEAT DANCE FROM BEG.** The circle version of the dance is done a total of 2 times.

**CPL VERSION OF DANCE**

**REPEAT FIG. I-II:**

**FIG. III-A: CPL VERSION (POLKA)**

- 1-4 Cpls face (M face RLOD). and **join** in shldr shldr-blade pos. and do 3 polka steps and a jump onto both ft (see Fig. III. meas 1-4). beg ML WR. turning CW 1-1/2 times **while moving** In LOD. M end facing RLOD. W facing M.
- 5-8 Do 3 polka steps and a jump, beg MR, WL – cpls turn CCW 1 ½ times while moving in RLOD – M end facing LOD, W facing M.
- 9-10 Cpls turn CW 1 time in place – with 2 polka steps. M end facing RLOD, W faces M.
- 11-12 Do 3 jumps in place (flat-footed) with accent.
- 13-14 Repeat meas 1-8 (cpl version).

Learned from Zeljko Jergan at Detroit Folkdance Fall Camp September, 1996.