

Hora – הורה

(Israel)



The song Hora was written and performed by Avi Toledano in the 1982 Eurovision competition, winning Israel second place. One of the backup dancers was Shlomo Maman, who then created a folk dance to the song. This is one of the earliest examples of the use of a pop song for an Israeli folk dance, a trend that continues today.

Pronunciation: HOR-ah Translation: Hora [a style of dance]

Music: 4/4 meter. Composer and singer: Avi Toledano. Lyricist: Yoram Tahar-Lev.

Music and video available on <http://nirkoda.com/notations/Hora>.

Formation: Circle

Steps & Styling: Highly energetic with large, free-flowing arm movements.

Meas 4/4 meter

Pattern

8 meas INTRODUCTION. No movement. The word *Hora* is sung three times (no movement), and the dance begins with singing of the first verse.

I. VERSE 1: SIDE BEHIND.

Closed circle with arms on neighbors' shoulders. Facing center, but travel is along the CCW line.

1 R steps to R (1), L behind R (2), R steps to R (3), L behind R (4).

2 R steps to R (1), L chug: lift so that the L ankle is approximately behind the R knee (2). Quick L Yemenite: step down on the L (3), step on R in place (&), L crosses in front of L (4)

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

5 Kick-step-step: Kick R to the R side (1), step on R (2), L crosses in front of R (&). Another kick-step-step (3-4).

6 Sway in place, R (1), L (2), R (3). L crosses in front of R (4).

7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.

II. CHORUS: HORA.

Facing center. Free hands.

1 Slightly to the R side, R (1), L (&), R (2), with the hands straight up making a large V. Slightly to the L side, L (1), R (&), L (2), the hands coming down to the side of the body.

2 Full pivot turn: The L foot will pivot in place, but will not move from its location on the floor. Step R forward (1). Step L in place (2), while turning half-way to the L and pivoting the feet so toes face outside. Repeat cts 1-2 (3-4) so that you face inside. Optionally, on cts 1-2, hold both hands straight out, chest level, palms turned up (as if

you were holding a serving tray).

3 Step on R in place (1), lift L knee (2). Step L in place (3), lift R knee (4).

4 Grapevine moving CCW: side (1), front (2), side (3), behind (4).

III. VERSE 2: NAI NAI NAI NAI.

Holding hands in V position, moving in and out of the center.

1 Four step falls: Step R forward (1), fall onto the L as it move foward but stays behind the R (&). Repeat ct 1 three more times (2-4), except that on ct 4, add emphasis to the R forward (4) and omit the L forward (&), instead simply pausing on the &. The body leans forward on this measure, and twist the shoulders along with their respective feet.

2 Back three steps, L (1), R (2), L (3). Touch R (4) at shoulder width position.

3 Four sways R (1), L (2), R (3), L (4).

Order of the dance:

I, II, II, III, III – This pattern repeats three times.

There are two extra beats at the end of the music. Step R to the right side (1), L steps next to it (2). On ct 1, bring the arms up over the head to make a large V, as in meas 1 of the chorus.

Presented by Aaron Alpert