

## **DASME E REXHES**

- Origin:** Albania – Style of dance from Kosovo and Northeast Albania
- Background:** This is a women’s dance. The song is about Rexha's wedding. Dashme means wedding and Rexha is a boy's name. This song is a legend known by Albanians all over the world, symbolizing hardship of Albanian motherhood. Rexha goes to get the horse he will ride to his wedding, but the horse kicks him or throws him off and Rexha dies. The horse is shot, and Rexha’s mother laments the loss of her son.
- Source:** Emin "Gaxha" Island
- Rhythm** 2/4
- Formation:** Choose your own spot, arms spread out in front of breast.

NOTE – If you have already learned the dance, then these instructions are a good reminder of the steps. However, if you have not been through a teaching session on this dance, these instructions do not provide enough information to learn the dance.

There is NO introduction. The dance starts with the music.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>Cnt</u>	<u>Part I.</u>	<u>Arm Movements are subtle</u>
<b><u>Back Step</u></b>			
1	1-2	Step on R, crossing close behind L	Both arms R
2		Step on L, crossing close behind R	Both arms L
3		Step on R, crossing close behind L	Both arms R
4	1	Step L forward,	Both arms L
	2	Step R backward	Both arms R
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4 with opposite movements	
<b><u>Little Circle</u></b>			
9-11		6 buzz steps to R beg w R ft, turning once in place (R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R) (1 & 2 &, 1 & 2 &, 1 & 2 )	L hand arched over head, but forward of head R in front at waist level
12	1	Step L forward	
	2	Close R	
<u>Meas</u>	<u>Cnt</u>	<u>Part II.</u>	<u>Arm Movements</u>
<b><u>Down/Up</u></b>			
1-2		Raise up arms through sdw pos	
3-4		Lower arms slowly in front to waist level	
<b><u>Touch Step</u></b>			
5	1	Touch ball of L foot slightly fwd, knees bend, while turning L ankle forward	R
	2	L raised slightly sdw, R knee raised, L knee turned in	L
6	1-2	Step L forward	R, L
7-8		Repeat meas 5-6 with R (opposite footwork)	R, L, R, L
9-10		Repeat meas 5-6	

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<b><u>Meas</u></b>	<b><u>Cnt</u></b>	<b><u>Part II continued</u></b>	<b><u>Arm Movements</u></b>
11	1	Touch ball of R ft slightly forward while turning R ankle forward	R
	2	R raised slightly sdw, L knee raised R knee turned in	L
12		Repeat meas 11	R, L
<b><u>Left &amp; Right Buzz</u></b>			
13-14		4 buzz steps to L beg w R ft (R, L, R, L, R, L, R) (1 & 2 &, 1 & 2)	R, L, R, L
15-16		4 buzz steps to R beg w L ft (L, R, L, R, L, R, L) (1 & 2 &, 1 & 2)	R, L, R, L
<b><u>Big Circle</u></b>			
17-20		8 buzz steps to L beg w R ft in a large circle counter clockwise (R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R) (1 & 2 &, 1 & 2 &, 1 & 2 &, 1 & 2 &)	L in front bent at face level, R behind slanting down
<b><u>Touch Step</u></b>			
21-22		Repeat meas 5-6	
23		Repeat meas 11	
<b><u>Little Circle</u></b>			
24-26		6 buzz steps beg w R ft, turning R in place (as in Part I, meas 9-11)	as in meas 9-11 of Part I
27	1	Step in place	both arms down
	2	Step L slightly forward	
<b><u>Meas</u></b>	<b><u>Cnt</u></b>	<b><u>Part IIIA.</u></b>	<b><u>Arm Movements</u></b>
<b><u>Hesitation Step</u></b>			
1	1	Step ball of R ft slightly forward	both arms fwd at waist level
	2	Weight on R with accent	R
2	1-2	Step L, R back in place	L, R
3-4		Repeat meas 1-2 in mirror image	
5-12		Repeat meas 1-4 two more times	
<b><u>Little Circle</u></b>			
13-15		6 buzz steps beg w R ft, turning R in place	as in meas 9-11 of Part I
<b><u>Part IIIB. (for ending of dance)</u></b>			
<b><u>Hesitation Step</u></b>			
1-12		Repeat meas 1-12 of Part IIIA.	
<b><u>Little Circle (to end dance)</u></b>			
13-14		4 buzz steps beg w R ft, turning R in place	as in meas 9-11 of Part I
15	1	Step R in place	
	2	Step L slightly forward	lower L arm to waist

**Meas Cnt Part IV.**

**Arm Movements**

**Back Step**

- 1-4 Repeat meas 5-8 of Part I. : (L)
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 of Part I. : (R)
- 9-12 Repeat meas 5-8 of Part I. : (L)

**Left & Right Buzz, Big Circle, Touch Step, Little Circle**

- 13-27 Repeat meas 13-27 of Part II.

**Order of dance: I, II, IIIA, IV, IIIB/I, II, IIIA, IV, IIIB**

**Dasme e Rexhes - Leslie's Sequence Reminder - A, B, A, B**

Sequence A				Sequence B			
Ct	Note	Step	Ft	Ct	Note	Step	Ft
16	2x8	Back step	R	24	3x8	Back step	L
8		Little Circle	R				
8		Down/Up	n/a				
16	4x4	Touch step	L				
8		L&R Buzz	R	8		L&R Buzz	R
8		Big Circle	R	8		Big Circle	R
6	1.5x4	Touch step	L	6	1.5x4	Touch step	L
8		Little Circle	R	8		Little Circle	R
24	6x4	Hesitation step	R	24	6x4	Hesitation step	R
6		Little Circle	R	6		Little Circle	R

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Instructions by M. Ibns and L. Langeveld  
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Step Titles and Sequence Reminder added in 2009 by Leslie Hyll  
Presented by Leslie Hyll (Dayton, Ohio) at the 2009 Door County Folk Festival (Wisconsin)  
(with the expert assistance of Lorraine Fortner)

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