

IMOTZ IBARREKO ESKU DANTZA (ee-moats ee-bahr-eh-koh es-koo dawn-saw)
(Navarre, Spain)

Many Esku Dantzás (Hand Dances) were once found throughout Navarre, in the Basque region of Spain. This one is now found among urban performing groups in the Basque Country, and was collected by Çandi deAlaiza.

Music: Westwind WI-3332 (2/4 meter)

Formation: Cpls in a circle, facing ptr (M's back to cntr), or in a line (M's L shldr to music)

Meas. Figure I

- 1-2 Directions for M; W does mirror image of M's part. Facing 1/4 to L, and moving slightly in that direction step L, R, L; hop on L, turning 1/2 CW to face 1/4 to R and bringing R ft across in front of L ankle. Hands are held out to sides, about head high, elbows sharply bent; snap fingers on first ct of each meas.
- 3-4 Same as meas 1-2 but opp ftwork and move opp direction.
- 5-8 Same as meas 1-4.
- 9-10 Same as meas 1-2.
- 11-12 Turn 1 1/4 CW with 4 steps starting R, to end facing ptr.

Figure II

- 1-2 M's part: Picking R knee up high, leap onto R ft in place; slap R thigh with R hand (ct 1); leap onto L in place, slapping L thigh with L hand (2). Clap both hands with ptr (1) as step R next to L; pause (2).
W's part: Bend both knees slightly and clap hands behind back (1); straighten knees and clap hands together in front of chest (2); clap both hands with ptr (1); hold (2).
- 3 M and W do same step (not mirror image): Pas de Basque to R (leap slightly to R on R (1); touch L fwd (&); step on R in place (2)), at same time bringing R hand up in front about head level, elbow slightly bent, and L hand behind lower back, L elbow moderately bent
- 4 Same as meas 3 but opp ft and hand movements
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three more times; M must end with wt on R ft.

Figure III

- 1-2 M's part; W does mirror image. Pas de Basque to L, then to R.
- 3 Leap onto L, bringing R slightly in front (1); leap onto R, bringing L slightly in front (2).
- 4 Same as meas 1 (Pas de Basque to L).
- 5-8 Same as meas 1-4, but opp ftwork.
- 9 Jump onto both ft, slightly apart, facing 1/8 to L; bounce.
- 10 Jump onto both ft, slightly apart, facing 1/8 to R of orig. posn; bounce.
- 11-12 Turn 1 1/8 CCW in place with 4 steps starting L; end facing ptr.
In this Figure snap fingers as in Fig. I, except snap twice in meas 3, 7, 11.

Figure IV

- 1-16 Same as Figure II.

Repeat entire dance from the beginning.

Style: dance on balls of feet throughout.