

Ahava Pshuta

(Israel)

This is one of many Israeli dances that feature pivot turns. In Hebrew, this movement is called “lahatz” or a “press” turn because you are pressed close to your partner, and it is found in a large percentage of modern Israeli couple dances.

Choreographer: Roni Siman-Tov (approx. 1981)

Translation: Simple Love

Pronunciation: ah-hah-VAH pshuh-TAH

Music: *Israeli Dances Stockton 2006*, Bands 1 or 2. 4/4 meter

Formation: Couples in a circle facing CCW. W on M's right. Simple inside handhold. M's footwork is noted. W uses opposite footwork unless otherwise noted.

Cts

Pattern

INTRODUCTION

I. MOVING CCW; SWITCH PLACES AND SWITCH BACK

- 1-4 Beginning on outside ft, take 4 steps fwd (L-R-L-R).
- 5-6 Sway away from ptr to full extent of inside joined hands (L); sway back toward partner (R), W stepping slightly in front of M
- 7-8 Switch places, W passing in front of M, with three steps (L-R-L). Drop hands during pass; join new inside hands.
- 9-16 Repeat cts 1-8 with opp ftwk, continuing to move CCW as a cpl. On ct 16, turn 1/4 to face partner, M's back to ctr. Hands joined (R in L, L in R) at chest level.

II. FACING PARTNER; MOVING CCW AND RETURNING

- 1-4 Grapevine step CCW: side, behind, side, in front (L-R-L-R).
- 5-6 Fast Yemenite step (sway L to L, sway R to R, step L in front of R).
- 7-10 Grapevine step CW: side, behind, side, in front (R-L-R-L).
- 11-12 Fast R Yemenite step (sway R to R, sway L to L, step R in front of L); quickly take ballroom pos.
- 13-16 Four pivot steps with partner (L-R-L-R), making two complete revolutions and moving CCW as a cpl. If repeating from Part I (see SEQUENCE below), finish side by side facing CCW with inside hands joined; if continuing to Part III, end with M's back to ctr and remain in ballroom pos.

III. MOVING INTO AND OUT OF CENTER WITH “CHA-CHA”

- 1-2 Rock away from ctr (M steps fwd onto L; W bkwd onto R); rock twd ctr (M bkwd onto R; W fwd onto L).
- 3-4 Step-together-step moving twd ctr (M backing up L-R-L with W following on opp ftwk).
- 5-8 Repeat cts 1-4 with opp ftwk and directions, i.e., rock in, rock out, step-together-step out.
- 9-10 Two sways (M sways L-R); release ballroom pos.

Ahava Pshuta—continued

- 11-13 3-step turn as an individual (M turns L with L-R-L, W turns R) moving CCW and end facing ptr, M's back to ctr.
 14-16 Immediately do another 3-step turn (M turns R, W turns L) and resume ballroom position
 17-32 Repeat cts 1-16. On ct 32, face CCW, join inside hands, and repeat dance from the beginning.

SEQUENCE: I, II, I, II, III
 I, II, I, II, III (on other recordings of the song, the sequence may go through again)
 I, II, III

Presented by Loui Tucker

Song Lyrics:

Ahava Pshuta

Ein li charuzim yafim lashir lach lepizmon.
 Ein li meitarim lifrot lach tachat hachalon.
 Ein li melitzot na'ot lilechosh lach be'oznech.
 Ein li kisharon afilu leta'er yofyech.
 Ein li bayit mehudar ve'ain mizug avir.
 Ein chesbon babank ve'ain migrash katan ba'ir.
 Ein li elef lai maskoret.
 Ein il chalifa shel choref.
 Afilu ein li dod ashir.

Chorus:

Ach yesh li ahava p'shuta.
 Oti hi timalei, gdola kim'lo tevel.
 Ken yesh li ahava p'shuta.
 Ve'et kula ani rak lach makdish yomam valeil.
 Ein li mechonit lehoshivech ba letzidi
 Ein li gam katno'a,
 el gabi shetetzamdi
 Ein li shum album shel amanut lach lehar'ot
 Ein li taklitim bishvil lishmo'a oh lirkod
 Ein li job bachir ani ochel al cheshboni
 Lo shalchu oti lachul, nish'arti almoni
 Ein sira li baKinneret
 Ein li matzlema shel seret
 Ein televizia bimoni

[Chorus]

Simple Love

I don't have beautiful verses to sing for you in a song.
 I don't have strings to play for you below your window.
 I don't have fine flowery phrases to whisper in your ear.
 I don't have the talent even to describe your beauty.
 I don't have a fancy home and I don't have air conditioning.
 There's no bank account, and no small plot of land in the city.
 I don't have a 1,000 Israeli lirot salary.
 I don't have a winter suit.
 I don't even have a rich uncle.

Chorus:

But I have a simple love.
 It fulfills me, as much as the whole world.
 Yes, I have simple love.
 And all of it I dedicate to you alone, day and night.
 I don't have a car where you could sit beside me.
 I don't have a motor scooter,
 where you could sit behind me and hold on tight
 I have no album of artwork to show you.
 I have no records, to listen or to dance to.
 I don't have a top job; but I pay my own way
 They didn't send me overseas; I remain an unknown
 I don't have a boat on the Galilee
 I don't have a movie camera
 There's no TV at my house

[Chorus]