

The Quadrilles
South Uist, South End

MUSIC

[1] (1)

(4) [3]

[4] (3)

(2) [2]

A square dance with the first couple at the top looking down, facing the second couple opposite; third couple is to the left of the first couple, and fourth couple is to the right.

The dance consists of six figures, each start with an introductory eight bars, played so the dancers can Honour, i.e. bow and curtsey first to their partners and then to their corners.

This description should be seen as a guideline only.

FIRST FIGURE – 6/8 March time

Bars	Count	
		Introduction
8	8	Honour (Bow and Curtsey to) your partner.
	8	Honour your corner.
1-8	16	First and second couples Reel of Four. The two women commence by passing each other by the left and then opposite man by the right. Men finish back to back in the middle facing their partner
9-16	16	Set (optional) to partners and swing with elbow hold.
17-32	32	First and second couples Ladies' Chain. The two women change places giving right hands, swing opposite man with right elbow hold. The two women change back giving right hand and swing partner with right elbow hold.
33-64		Third and fourth couples repeat bars 1-32.

Note: That when swinging with elbow hold, the couple will slow down just prior to the next movement, and that the man retains hold of partner's left hand to help and guide her into the cross over part of the Ladies' Chain.

SECOND FIGURE – 6/8 March time

Bars	Count	
8		Introduction
1-8	8	First and second couples, joining right hands, advance and retire.
	8	First and second couples advance again, slightly, men bringing their partner's into the middle, so that they are back to back facing their own partners. (Women retire into the middle)
9-16	16	Drop right hands and all walk three steps sideways to their right and kick free foot; walk three steps to the left and kick (facing partner again). Set with two Pas de Basque's (optional) and swing partner. Note that the swing may continue for longer than the 16 counts allocated for in this description.
17 -		First and second couples repeat the above again.
49 -		Third and fourth couples repeat the above figure twice.

THIRD FIGURE – 6/8 March time

Bars	Count	
8		Introduction
1-8	16	First man and second woman go into the middle, joining crossed hands at chest height and swing. They end the swing by keeping hold of right hand in right, giving their free left hands to their partners, and thus forming a line up and down the set.
9-16	8	All four balance with four Pas de Basques.
	8	First man and second woman release right hand hold, and 'pull' their partner's across the set to the other side. Partners finish side by side facing across the set.
17-24	16 (8)	First man and second woman dance back-to-back. As they are passing each other back to back, it is optional for the dancer to make a turn about in progress.
25-32	8	First and second couples advance and retire, taking right hand in right.

These notes are guidelines only! Provided by permission of Mats Melin.

- 8 First and second couples cross back over to their own places; men pushing their partner's across, i.e. women moving backwards, partner's still holding right hand in right, facing each other, and the couples pass each other in the middle by the left, i.e. clockwise.
- 33-64 These 32 bars are now repeated by second man and first woman.
- 65-96 These 32 bars are now repeated by third man and fourth woman.
- 97-128 These 32 bars are now repeated by fourth man and third woman.

FOURTH FIGURE – 6/8 March time

Bars	Count	
8		Introduction
1-8	16	First couple, taking waltz hold, dance across the set towards second couple. The first woman is left by her partner on the opposite side to the left of second man. Second man holds his partner and first woman round the back as they now face the first man in the middle.
9-16	16	Second man advances and retires together with the two women. Four travelling Pas de Basques each way. First man retires and advances. To finish the women turn inwards to face the first man, and second man takes hold round the back of the two women.
17-24	16	Repeat the above eight bars, with the second man guiding the women in the advance and retire. Finish with all forming a basket in the middle. In this basket, all have their arms round the backs of each other.
25-32	16	Basket turn to the left. Note: when done to live music, this figure may last longer than eight bars! Return to own places at the end of the Basket turn.
41-128		The above 32 bars are now repeated with second, third and fourth couples leading in turn.

FIFTH FIGURE – 6/8 Jig Time ‘Grand National’ ‘Scoosh’

Bars	Count	
8		Introduction
8	16	All joining hands in a big circle, advance and retire twice.
16	32	First and second couples, taking holding nearer arms round each others backs, skip anti-clockwise round the whole room.
16	32	First and second couples, upon coming back to places, birl round anti-clockwise on the spot once with partner, still in the same hold, men pass partner into middle to Ladies' Chain. The two women change places giving right hands, swing opposite man with right elbow hold. The two women change back giving right hand and swing partner with right elbow hold.
8	16	All joining hands in a big circle, advance and retire twice.
-		Third and fourth couples repeat the above.
-		All is repeat again.

SIXTH FIGURE – 4/4 Reel time.

Bars	Count	
8		Introduction
1-8	8	The four women advance to the centre and retire.
	8	The four men advance to the middle and turn about on the spot to face their partner.
9-16	16	All set to partner with two Pas de Basque and swing them with right elbow hold.
17-		Wheel round - the four men join left hands to form a cartwheel and take hold of their present partner by the waist and walk round the set anti-clockwise. Upon coming back to their places, men release their left hands, and swing their partner round, still in the same hold, anti-clockwise, woman travels forwards and man backwards in the turn. The women are passed anti-clockwise on to the next man, making another turn about while doing so.
-	16	All set to and swing new partner.
-		Left hand cartwheel and swing round and pass on woman to the next man four more times. I.e., each woman should dance the figure five times, with partner, the next three men in turn and finish off by dancing with partner one more time.
		The dance is concluded after the last swing round (once or twice) with partners after the fifth cartwheel.

Suggested music: