

BOHREEN DANCE. Ireland

Bohreen means a little road or lane, and in the dance, one can easily see the couples promenading down the lane. Basic Step: promenade.

STARTING POSITION: Any number of couples with partners facing in two parallel lines, (man is on left as couples face head of set). Couples are numbered consecutively from the head of the set.

PART I

Measures

Beginning right foot

- 1-4 COUPLE 1: 4 PROMENADE STEPS DOWN THE SET, WOMAN BETWEEN THE LINES, MAN ON THE OUTSIDE (Behind men)**
- 5-8 RETURN TO PLACE WITH 4 PROMENADE STEPS**

PART II

- 1-8 REPEAT PART I WITH MAN GOING DOWN THE CENTER AND WOMAN ON THE OUTSIDE (Behind women)**
- Cue: "Down the lane"

PART III

Beginning right foot

- 9-12 COUPLE 1: JOIN INSIDE HANDS AND MOVE DOWN CENTER OF SET WITH 4 PROMENADE STEPS**
- Drop hands, turn to face up set
- 13-16 JOIN INSIDE HANDS AND RETURN TO PLACE WITH 4 PROMENADE STEPS**
- Cue: "Down the center together"

PART IV

- 9-10 COUPLE 1: JOIN RIGHT HANDS AND EXCHANGE PLACES (2 Promenades)**
- Without stopping, release hands

- 11-12 MAN PASSES BEHIND WOMAN OF COUPLE 2 WHILE
WOMAN PASSES BEHIND MAN OF COUPLE 2 (2
Promenades)
- 13-16 MEET IN CENTER, FACE HEAD OF SET (JOINING
INSIDE HANDS), PROMENADE UP SET AND BACK TO
PLACE (4 Promenades)
Cue: "Cross over, pass around and come up"

PART V

- Drop hands, turn to face down set
- 1-2 **COUPLE 1:** JOIN INSIDE HANDS AND MOVE DOWN
CENTER OF SET (2 Promenades)
Release hands and separate

PART VI

- 1-8
MAN PASSES BEHIND WOMAN OF COUPLE 2 While
WOMAN PASSES BEHIND MAN OF COUPLE 2 GOING
up THE SET (4 Promenades)
WITHOUT JOINING HANDS, RETURN TO OWN PLACE
PASSING RIGHT SHOULDERS (2 Promenades)
Cue: Go down, pass around, and cross

Part VI

- 1-8
COUPLES 1 AND 2: CROSS AND JOIN BOTH HANDS.
EXCHANGE PLACES BY TURNING COUNTER-
CLOCKWISE AROUND EACH OTHER. WHILE
EXCHANGING
PLACES, EACH COUPLE TURNS CLOCKWISE AND
CONTINUES TURNING IN PLACE IN THE NEW POSITION.
(8 Promenades)

Cue "Swing around"

REPEAT ENTIRE DANCE WITH COUPLES 1 AND 3;
1 AND 4; 2 AND 3 etc.

NOTE The above is the traditional way of dancing the Bohreen Dance. To add Interest for dance classes, all odd numbered couples may be active. These would follow the instructions as described for couplet. As each couple reaches the head or the foot of the set, it waits in place once throughout the entire dance.

A SECOND ADAPTATION: Limit sets to four and have couples 1 and 3 active simultaneously. In this case, when all couples return to original places the dance ends.