

FOUR HAND REEL (Cor Ceathrair)

(Irish)

Record: Any good reel

Position of dancers: B. A. (Leading couple) A and C are men, B
C. D. (Opposite couple) and D are women.

1. Lead Around

M takes W's LH in his RH, shoulder height. Dancers move around CCW (using promenade step) in a circle for 8 meas.; release hands, turn about inwards, M takes W's RH in his LH and lead back CW to place (8 meas.).

2. The Body (Consists of 5 movements)

a. The Square

M sidestep a square CCW while W sidestep a square CW, using (7) to move along side of square and 2 threes to turn. Thus A moves into B's position, then to C's and D's and back to his own position. B moves to position A to D to C and back into position. W passes in front on each occasion. (16 meas.)

b. Four Sevens

M sidestep 7 to R, W 7 to L, W passing in front of M (2 meas.) M sidestep back to place passing in front of W W sidestep back into place also (2 meas.). Note: no 3's between 7's. Repeat b. (4 meas.)

c. Star:

All four give RH across center, shoulder height, move CW in promenade step. (4 meas.). Move back - LH across (4 meas.). M holds M's hand, W join hands, W's hands underneath for star.

d. Bridge

Leading couple (B, A) face, join RH and sidestep to C and D position, while C and D sidestep passing outside A and B into A and B's position (2 meas.). Using 2 threes, C and D also join RH, both couples make one $\frac{1}{2}$ turn in place. A and B drop hands and sidestep outside C and D back into place, joining hands and making $\frac{1}{2}$ turn for 2 threes. C and D with joined hands sidestep down center back to original position (4 meas.).

e. Four Hand Reel Chain (Circular chain)

M gives RH to opposite W, move forward, meet partner with LH, opposite W with RH and partner again with LH to finish in position (8 meas.) Promenade step throughout.

3. First Figure (Hands Around Three)

Leading couple advance (2 meas.), release hands. W passes between opposite couple, around CCW between them again, then around W CW (6 meas.) Meanwhile her partner takes 2 threes in place, then 7 to R, then 2 threes into place so that his partner is on his R, opposite W on his L. (6 meas.) Leading M and two W join hands and sidestep in circle to R, 2 threes, back to L; leading couple raise hands and opposite W passes under their raised hands into leading W original position (4 meas.). All do 2 threes as she moves. Opposite M has been sidestepping to R and back. (4 meas.). Leading couple now include opposite

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(-7-)

(Irish and Scottish Country Dancing Workshop, Maire McGranahan, John Williams)
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FOUR HAND REEL (cont)

M in circle, sidestepping to L, 2 threes, back to R, pass M under raised hands to meet partner, who has been sidestepping to L and back, Both couples join crossed hands and dance back to place CW (8 Meas.). (Rotating promenade step).
Opposite couple now perform the figure (#3 above).
Repeat the body of the dance (#2).

4. Second Figure (Ladies Chain):
Ladies advance, give RH in center, continue to opposite M, give LH to him (2 meas.), make one turn (2 meas.), return to own partners (2 meas.), join RH and make one turn in place (2 meas.). Both couples join crossed hands and dance complete circle around each other and back into position moving CCW, rotating CW (8 meas.)
Repeat body of dance (#2).
5. Lead Around: as at beginning (#1).