

OLD COUNTRYMAN'S REEL
(Traditional)

MUSIC: Any well phrased 64 count Reel
FORMATION: Contra lines, 1,3,5, etc, cpls active but not crossed over
Counts

ACTIONS & EXPLANATIONS

- 1-8 Active lady down ctr with 2nd gent - Active lady and the M just below her ptrnr go down the set in 6 short steps turning individually on cts 7 & 8 to face up. (Some dancers prefer to take 4 steps down & 4 steps to do a slow, stately turn, facing ea other while turning.)
- 9-16 Back to place & lady casts off - Dance up the set in 4 steps, 2nd M returning to his place in line while the active lady casts off with the lady who was below her (2nd lady). Partial progression has been made as the active lady has moved down 1 place in line.
- 17-24 Active gent down ctr with 2nd lady - The second lady is now one place up the set from the active M's ptrnr (to his L of his ptrnr) and almost directly across the set from him. Active M and the 2nd lady dance down the set as above (cts 1-8)
- 25-32 Back to Place & Gent casts off - Dance up the set in 4 steps, active M placing the 2nd lady back where he found her and then the active M casts off with the M who was below him (2nd M). Progression is now complete, actives are down 1 place in line, inactives up 1 place.
- 33-40 All fwd and bow come back to place - All go fwd with 3 short steps, bow to ptrnr on 4th, back up 4 steps into lines
- 41-48 Right & Left thru - These 4 dancers cross the set with the action best described as "pass thru & wheel as a cpl" using no handholds throughout. During the "wheel turn" the L dancer backs around as the R dancer moves fwd and around
- 49-56 All fwd and bow, come back to place - Rpt cts 33-40 above
- 57-64 Right & Left thru - Rpt cts 41-48 above.