

Huntsman's Chorus

A New England Contra, to English music?

Formation: Set of 3 couples, men on one side, women on other.

(A music) 1st and 2nd couples set and swing partners, (total of 16 counts). They finish the swing and open to face down the set, with the man to the left of his partner. They promenade down the set (4 counts) and turn as a couple, with the man backing up and the woman going forward, (4 cts.) They promenade back up the set (4 cts). The 1st couple splits and casts off into 2nd position, while the 2nd couple leads up into first position. (4 cts)

(B music) Immediately the top two couples go into a right hand star, 8 cts. around, and reverse, and return with L hands back, 8 cts. As soon as they return, the 1st man (who is now in 2nd position) exchanges places with the 3rd woman, passing right shoulders. (4 cts) The 1st woman exchanges places with the 3rd man. (4 cts) The bottom two couples join hands in a circle of four, circle half-way around, (so that the original first couple is again in second position), and finish the dance with the first couple splitting and casting to the bottom and the 3rd couple leading up into 2nd position.

This is once through the dance. The original 1st couple has worked its way to the bottom of the set, and a new first couple is at the head of the set. Remember, the dance starts with the top 2 couples setting and swinging.

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The musical notation for 'Huntsman's Chorus' is presented on three staves in 2/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. Above the first staff, four 'C' chord symbols are placed above the notes. The second staff continues the melody and includes a repeat sign. Above this staff, the following chord symbols are placed: F, G, C, C, +7, and F. The third staff concludes the piece with a double bar line and repeat dots. Above this staff, the following chord symbols are placed: G7, C, F, G7, and C.