

## HIGHLAND SCHOTTISCHE (Scotland)

Unlike most of the Scottish folk dances, which are group activities, the popular Schottische is intended for couple dancing. Of the several versions, this is one of the easier ones.

**OPENING FORMATION:** Double circle of couples side-by-side, in ballroom position, facing counterclockwise, girl to right of man.

**PART 1: Meas. 1:** All hop on inside foot—boy's right, girl's left—(pointing outside toe forward and to the side).

Hop again on inside foot (bringing outside toe behind other ankle).

Hop again on inside foot (again pointing outside toe forward).

Hop once more on inside foot (bringing outside toe in front of other ankle).

**Meas. 2:** Beginning with the *outside* foot, take a schottische step forward: step, step, step, hop (for the boy: left, right, left, left).

At the end of the schottische step, couples turn to face opposite direction.

**Meas. 3-4:** Repeat the 4 hops (this time on the new *inside* foot), the schottische step (beginning with the new *outside* foot), and turn.

**Meas. 5-8:** Repeat all PART 1, i.e., two complete sequences.

**PART 2: Meas. 1-8:** Facing original direction (counterclockwise), couples dance around the circle with step-hops or quick polka steps. (Step-hop by stepping, then hopping on the same foot.)

**NOTE:** Couples may prefer to do PART 1 in



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open position: girl on boy's right with her left hand on his right shoulder, his right arm around her waist. In changing directions from open position, partners separate, turn, then rejoin hands.

PART 1 may also be done with partners facing, one hand high in the air, the other on the hip. In this case, dance PART 2 holding

right, then left hands, rather than in ballroom position.

To make the dance a "mixer," you may prefer a "grand right and left" in PART 2: boys moving counterclockwise and girls clockwise, passing each other with right and left-hand holds.