

FIREMAN'S DANCE
(American)

Record: *Imperial 1095
Methodist 107

Formation: Done in a large circle formation with a line of two couples facing a line of two couples to form sets of 8. One line faces clockwise, one counter-clockwise. (It is helpful to teach Sicilian Circle before doing this one, so that Ladies' Chain and Right and Left Through can be learned.)

Action 1: Sliding: The persons closest to the center of the circle and those farthest from center in each line are the active ones. The ones closest to the center may be designated as in the HERE (or head) position and the others, THERE (or foot). The HERE persons step backward a step and slide sideways down the outside of the set, 8 slides, and back to place. Simultaneously, the THERE players slide up the inside of the set of 8 people, 8 slides up and 8 slides back to place. Now reverse, and those who slid inside the set slide outside, and vice versa.

Action 2: Right and Left Through and Ladies Chain: In this you do not operate as a line of 2 couples. This is done by pairs of couples, facing each other. The two couples in the HERE position do ladies' chain, while the two THERE couples are doing right and left through, to the count of 16, then reverse and do the figure you have not done yet. (For ladies' chain a couple is facing clockwise, another counter-clockwise around a circle. The girls walk across to the other man - giving right hands to each other as they pass each other - and left hand to the man, who takes the hand and, helping the girl with right hand at her waist, turns her around, facing her back toward home position; similar action back to place, where partner turns her as above. For Right and Left Through, a couple faces clockwise, and another counter-clockwise around a big circle. Each person simultaneously extends right hand to opposite person - the one you're facing - and walk over to that person's position, taking right hand on the way over, and taking partner's left hand in opposite position, where the man turns girl as indicated in ladies' chain. Return to place with similar action. NOTE THAT EACH COUPLE DOES BOTH FIGURES. WHETHER YOU DO LADIES' CHAIN FIRST DEPENDS ON WHETHER YOU ARE IN THE "HERE" POSITION OR NOT.

Action 3: Fire, fire, fire, fire. The line is restored. The four people who are standing in a line join hands and walk forward toward their opposite lines shouting in time to the music, "Fire, fire, fire' fire," then walk backward to places, counting 4 each way. They drop hands, walk forward, right through the line of four they have been facing, passing right shoulders with their opposite person, and, without turning around, meet a new line of four advancing from the other direction.

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