

# The Gay Gordons

(Scotland)

A 16-bar march for any number of couples dancing round the room. This is a traditional dance often danced at balls, ceilidhs, and barn dances in Scotland and North America.

Tune: "The Gay Gordons," by J. Scott Skinner, or any good march.

Cassette: 2/4 meter

Formation: Couples facing CCW around the room in allemande hold (hands at shldr height, joining R hand in R hand, L hand in L hand, M's R arm behind W's back, M's ptr on his R.).

Steps: Walking (2 steps per bar); Pas de Basque (one step per bar); Polka (one step per bar).

## Bars

## Pattern

INTRODUCTION. Bow to ptr.

- 1-2 Walk 4 steps fwd in LOD (CCW), but on the 4th step both individually make a half-turn by pulling back R shldr (to face CW around the room, M's ptr is now on his L).
- 3-4 Walk 4 steps bkwd in LOD (CCW), continuing the direction of travel in bars 1-2.
- 5-6 Walk 4 steps fwd but now moving CW around the room, and on the 4th step both individually make a half-turn by pulling back L shldr (to face CCW again, M's ptr again on his R).
- 7-8 Walk 4 steps bkwd moving CW around the room.  
(Bars 1-8 may be summarized: "Forward for 4 and turn, back up for 4; forward for 4 and turn, back up for 4.")
- 9-12 Releasing L hands and lifting R hands over the W's had, dance 4 pas de basque, traveling slightly in LOD, and the W making 2 turns to the R under their joined R hands.
- 13-16 Assume ballroom hold and dance 4 turning polka steps traveling in LOD. On the last polka step, the M transfers the W's R hand to his own R hand and they join L hands to finish in allemande hold, again facing CCW around the room, ready to begin again.

Presented by Robert McOwen

Description by Robert McOwen