

BLACKBERRY QUADRILLE (America)

Familiarity with square dance calls and figures is recommended before a group attempts a specific dance. The following explanations apply to both *Blackberry Quadrille* and *Soldier's Joy*.

Do-Si-Do: "Gent" and "lady" advance, pass each other by the right shoulder, slide back-to-back, and return to place, passing *left* shoulders. (Done with 8 steps.)

Ladies Chain: The two ladies of the set advance to center, pass each other with a right-hand hold and turn toward opposite gents. The opposite gent meets the lady with a *left*-hand hold, places his right arm around her waist, and turns her to the left, in place, to face center. To "Chain Back," ladies, without pausing, repeat the identical figure across the center and back to places. (Done with 16 steps: 4 across, 4 to turn, and back to places.)

Opposite: The gent or lady across the set, *not* one's partner.

Right and Left Through: Opposite couples advance and pass each other, gents on

the outside. Each gent separates from his partner so that the opposite lady passes between them. Thus gents pass ladies by the right shoulder, ladies pass each other by the left shoulder.

As soon as couples pass, gent takes partner's left hand in his own left hand, placing his right arm around her waist, and turns her to the left, in place, to face center. Couples return to original places in identical fashion. (Done with 16 steps: 4 across, 4 to turn, and back to places.)

Half Right and Left Through: Precisely the same as a "Right and Left Through," except that couples do *not* return to places, but cross the set, turn, and stand in new position (thus, done with 8 steps).

Half Promenade: Gent holds partner's left hand with own left hand, places right arm around her waist and crosses the set, passing opposite gent by the left shoulder. In new positions, couples turn to left, in place, and face center. (Done with 8 steps: 4 across and 4 to turn.)



Here is an excellent tune for a Grand March, as well as for a "longways" or contra dance. These instructions are for *The Tempest*, a New England contra.

OPENING FORMATION: Sets of four couples each, ladies on partners' right. Two couples side by side ("Active"); one "Inactive" couple on either side, facing center.

All Active couples face the same direction in a "longways" formation.

NOTE: It should be remembered that the following calls and directions pertain to each set and to each circle of four *within* the set, beginning with PART 2.

PART 1: Active couples join hands, walk down the set 8 steps, turn and walk back 8 steps.

CALL: "Down the center, four abreast, The other way back—you're going home."

PART 2: Active couples, instead of returning to places, separate and turn to the Inactive couple on the side, forming a circle of four. Thus, within each set, there are now two circles of four. Both circles walk 8 steps left, then 8 right.

CALL: "Join your hands and circle left;

The other way back—you're on the wrong track."

PART 3: Still within each circle of four, Active lady and Inactive lady do "Ladies Chain" and chain back.

CALL: "Ladies chain across the set And chain them back—you're not through yet."

PART 4: Both Active and Inactive couples do "Half Promenade," taking new places on opposite sides of their respective circles.

Both circles perform "Half Right and Left Through," bringing Active couples toward center, where they complete the turn and rejoin hands to stand in original positions (PART 1).

CALL: "Half Promenade to the other side, Half Right and Left Through to the other two."

Active couples are now in position to repeat the dance from the beginning. However, on each repeat, they move down the set to dance with the Inactive couples one position *below*, until they reach the end of the line. At that time, they separate and stand on the sides as *Inactive* couples.

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The first Inactive couple, therefore, has no Active couple with whom to dance and thus moves to *Active* position at the head of the line. This shift leaves two couples standing through the repetition of the dance until

the next shift—one at the head of the line and one at the foot. Remember—on reaching either end of the line, couples will wait once through before rejoining the dance.