

Swiss Allamande

Formation: Longways – Duple Minor.

Source: Keller, V. W. Kate, & George A. Fogg. “*No Kissing Allowed in School*”.

Original Source: *Orders for a Dancing School*. Broadside 1784.

Recording: None known.

Music: Thompson, Smal. Ann & Peter, *Twenty-four Country Dances for the Year 1782*.
[1781] London

The Dance: AA BB

- A1** 1-8 **Women take hands & 1st woman Lead 2nd & 3rd women in line around behind men.**
- A2** 1-8 **Men repeat A1 (lead behind women).**
- B1** 1-8 **1st couple Lead down middle, & Back, & Cast Off, 2nd couple dance up.**
- B2** 1-4 **All Clap Hands twice with partner (pat-a-cake) (clap own, partner's right, own, partner's left, and repeat)**
- 5-8** **All Two-hand turn partner once around.**

Original Text

XIX. Swiss Allamande

First, second, and third couples of the ladies join hands and dance round first second, and third gentlemen, they standing close together; then the gentlemen do the same while they return to their place, dance down the ally and back, out at the top, meet in second couple, clap hands, turn your partner, and begin.

Notes from “*No Kissing Allowed in School*”: Walker's dance with the sprightly leads around was bound to be popular with his younger students. It was called “Swiss Allamande” perhaps to distinguish it from its cousin, “Allemand Swiss.”

His opening figure was very new in the country dance literature -- the three-around-three figure began to appear in English collections in the mid-1770s. Even in rural Virginia, a dancing master was expected to keep up to date on the latest dance fads.

Broadside housed Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia.

Presented by George A. Fogg at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 2007