

A Reel for Iris

A 32-bar Reel for 4 couples in a 4-couple longwise set



- 1-4 1st couple followed by 2nd couple, lead down the middle, 2nd couple dance up to begin. 3rd couple, following 2nd couple, dance up individually to 1st place on bars 3-4.
- 5-8 1st and 2nd men turn their partners under right arm on bar 5 and lead up staying in the middle to face the corners of the set with 1st couple turning inwards to do so.
Order 3,(2),(1),4
- 9-12 3rd couple facing 2nd couple and 1st couple facing 4th couple on the diagonals all set. 2nd and 1st couples dancing individually cast by the right to dance around each other and out to finish in the corner's position behind on the diagonal while, that corner person dances to the left in to the middle curving in to face this new corner person whilst allowing the casting dancers to pass in front.
Order 1,3,4,2
- 13-16 1st couple 3rd facing couple and 4th couple facing 2nd couple on the diagonals all set. 3rd and 4th couples dancing individually cast by the right to dance around each other and out to finish in the corner's position behind on the diagonal while, that corner person dances to the left in to the middle whilst allowing the casting dancers to pass in front to finish facing sides in tandems: 1st couple with 1st man leading facing men's side and 2nd couple with 2nd woman leading facing women's side.
Order (4),1,2,(3)
- 17-20 1st and 2nd couples dance alternating half diagonal figures of eight. 1st couple pass 4th woman by the right to begin while 2nd couple pass 3rd man by the right. 1st and 2nd couples pass each other by the right in the middle. While 4th woman and 3rd man dance in on the diagonal giving right hands, turn halfway round to face each other in the middle of the set and, releasing hands, pull back by the right and, curve out to each other's place ('half turn and twirl'). Finish 1st couple facing down with 1st woman leading and 2nd couple facing up with 2nd man leading in line across.
- 21-24 1st and 2nd couples dance alternating half diagonal figures of eight. 2nd couple pass 4th man by the right to begin while 1st couple pass 3rd woman by the right. While 4th man and 3rd woman dance in on the diagonal giving right hands, turn halfway round to face each other in the middle of the set and, releasing hands, pull back by the right and, curve out to each other's place ('half turn and twirl'). Finish 1st and 2nd couples passing by the right, with 1st man leading facing women's side and 2nd woman leading facing men's side. Order 3,(1),(2),4
- 25-28 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across halfway retaining hold they turn right hands halfway moving to the ends and staying in the middle. 3rd couple step down and 4th couple step up on bars 27-28.
Order (2),3,4,(1)
- 29-32 2nd and 1st couples, still retaining hold, turn right hand one and a half times, and finish by dancing out to their own sides on the last bar, 2nd couple in 1st place and 1st couple in 4th place.
Finish 2,3,4,1

Repeat from new positions

Tune: Iris Ronayne's Reel by John Renton

Devised by Stephen Webb in March 2013

Note: The movement in bars 9-16 is a variation on those devised by the late Alec Hay of New Zealand.

Devised to mark the 50th birthday of Iris Ronayne on 19th March 2013.

Simply put, Iris loves Scottish country dancing so this dance is for her as a celebration of this love and was first danced at her birthday party, as a gift, by her friends.