

Draft dances for
Four on the Floor
by Terry Glasspool

Four of Diamonds

A 32 bar jig for 4 dancers.

Formation: Four dancers, any gender combination, arranged in a line. The numbering and directions used in the instructions are the same as for a normal longways set (#1 has back to the music, facing down, #2 faces down to begin dancing, #3 and #4 will begin facing up).

- 1- 8 #1 & #3 set to each other and petronella turn to face each other across the dance.
#1 & #3 set and petronella turn to finish having changed places.
- 9-12 #1 & #2 set and petronella turn to face each other across the dance.
- ☞ The formation is now a diamond, longer than it is wide. Care should be taken to maintain this formation during the next 16 bars.
- 13-16 #1 & #2 dance back to back.
- 17-24 All dance right and left inside the diamond, as follows:
#1 & #2 change places with right hand. (Holding on helps the orientation.)
#1 & #3, also #2 & #4, change places with left hand. (Dancers must let go to preserve the distance.)
#4 & #3 change places with right hand.
#4 & #1, also #3 & #2, change places with left hand.
- ☞ Dancers should be opposite their positions at the start of this figure.
- 25-28 #2 & #1 turn RH 1½.
- 29-30 #1 dances to the bottom of the line.
#2 dances to the top of the line.
#4 & #3 turn LH ½ then give RH to form a balance line with #2 & #1.
- 31-32 All, in the order 2 3 4 1, balance in line.

Repeat from new positions, three times.

Eight of Diamonds

A 32 bar jig for 4 couples.

This is a demo version of *Four of Diamonds* danced in a normal longways set, but wider than usual.

After the bow, top two couples face down, bottom two couples face up, so that the men's and women's lines each dance 4◇'s on their own side. Bars 13-16 and 25-28 have been modified to allow interaction between the two lines.

The instructions apply to both lines simultaneously: #1 refers to both 1M and 1W.

- 1-12 As in 4◇'s.
- 13-16 #1's & #2's dance a *half reel of four across* the dance to change sides.
- 17-24 As in 4◇'s. Although the figure is the same, dancers #1 and #2 are dancing in each other's positions:
#2 & #1 change places with right hand. (Holding on helps the orientation.)
#2 & #3, also #1 & #4, change places with left hand. (Dancers must let go to preserve the distance.)
#4 & #3 change places with right hand.
#4 & #2, also #3 & #1, change places with left hand.
- 25-28 #1 & #2 turn RH *once* round.
- 29-32 As in 4◇'s.
- ☞ At the end of each turn but the last, half the dancers will be on opposite sides. At the very end of the dance everyone will have returned to their original place.

Repeat from new positions, three times.

4◇'s in brief:

#1 & #3 set and petronella turn, twice;
#2 & #1 set and petronella, back to back;
Rights and lefts inside the diamond;
#1 & #2 turn RH 1½, "cut the diamond,"
balance.

These dance descriptions are subject to change and/or correction.