

Appalachian Big Circle

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Note: Figures are designated (called) and may be in any order. Dance begins with Big Circle figures, change to Small Circle figures, and end with Big Circle figures.

Selected Big Circle Figures

(Le=Leader, Fo=Follower)

Formation: Cpls in a large circle, Fo on Le R, hands held in wide W position. Le with palms up. Dance begins with cpls in promenade position traveling CCW. First couple leads all of the figures and is often the caller.

Wring out the Dishrag -Le lifts R arm as Fo begins to travel CCW around partner (cts. 1,2) As Fo gets to Le L side and starts behind, Le begins to lower R arm and lift L arm (cts. 3,4). When Fo reaches home, Le turns Fo CCW in place (L arm down, R arm up) to face original direction (cts.5-8). Repeat figure. (Note: Cts are approximate.)

Gent down, Lady Around - Le down on R knee, F travels CCW around Le twice while holding Le R hand with Fo L. Le stands and up and returns to promenade position (Figure takes 16 cts).

Queen's (or King's) Highway - From promenade position, Fo of head couple turns back and travels CW outside of circle. As Fo passes each couple, Fo of that couple falls in behind. Le continue circling CCW. This continues until partners meet resume promenade. when partner comes back join hands in promenade position. (On King's Highway, Le pass behind partner and travel CW outside of circle.)

London Bridge - Head cpl forms an arch by turning back and joining inside hands for couples to pass under. The next cpl ducks under arch, turns and forms arch behind the head cpl. As the head couple pass over the last couple, they duck under to follow through and promenade out of tunnel to continue the promenade CCW.

Grand R and L - Le travel CCW, begin with R to partner using four counts to pass each person.

Ocean Wave.- As dancers pass with the L during the Grand R and L, they hold on to the L and the next R while Le go toward the center and Fo toward the outside for 4 cts, and return for 4 cts, then continue to pass with the R.

Single File - Fo moves ahead of Le to form circle (no hands) facing CCW. Clogging is common during this figure.

Selected Small Circle Figures

Note: It is a tradition to circle 8 cts CW and CCW before each figure.

Circle Up Four - Make circles of two cpls each around the floor, circle L (CW) 8 cts and R 8 cts. Cpls become either traveling Trvl or Home cpl. At the callers command, after a figure or two, Trvl cpls move to the next Home cpl CCW in the room. Cpls who find themselves alone should go to ctr and find another cpl. If there are none they become a traveling (Trvl) cpl, thus missing the first figure.

Everybody Back up - Cpl with backs to center back up 4 cts and return 4 cts. This establishes them as the Trvl cpl. (Note: Another way to establish odds and evens is to count off CW before the dance begins.)

Duck and Dive - Trvl cpl ducks under arch formed by even cpl for 4 cts, and back for 4. Home cpls do likewise. Trvl cpl ducks thru arch again, breaking own hand hold, but holding onto even cpl and pulling them under their own arch and go around to place (8 cts), circle CW for 8 and CCW for 8 (or, follow caller's command).

Four Leaf Clover - Complete Duck part of Duck and Dive. On the Dive, Trvl cpl does not drop hold as they go under arch, but turn away from each other under their own arch to form the figure, circle 8 CW and 8 CCW, pull home cpl under Trvl cpl arch and under their own arch, circle CW 8 and CCW 8.

Take a Peek - Trvl cpl, drop hands, travels to outside of Home cpl, 4 cts, (Le to L, Fo to R), look at each other behind Home cpls back, 4 cts, return to place, 4 cts, both cpls swing prtners, 8 cts, circle L 8 and R 8.

Birdie in the Cage - The Fo of the Trvl cpl gets in the ctr while the others circle CW, 8 cts, CCW, 8 cts.

Birdie Hop out! Crow Hop in - Le of Trvl cpl gets in ctr when his partner comes out, circle as above.