



ABC SQUARE DANCING

CALLER SCHOOL

STUDENT INFORMATION

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THESE ARE THE POEMS WRITTEN OUT AS SHOWN AT THE CALLER SCHOOL.

They would make 4 Tips for a dance and you can mix and match or simply repeat them with different music for further Tips.

TIP 1.

OPEN / BREAK / CLOSE

CIRCLE LEFT (14) --,-----
-----,-----
ALLEMANDE LEFT (6) --,-----
PARTNER DO SA DO, (4) -----
MEN STAR LEFT (6) --,-----
SWING YOUR PARTNER (6) --,-----
PROMENADE HOME (14) --,-----,-----,-----

FIGURE

HEADS /SIDES GO FORWARD AND BACK, (4) -----
SIDES/HEADS GO FORWARD & BACK, (4) -----
HEADS STAR RIGHT TO THE CORNER, (4) -----
LOOK FOR YOUR CORNER --, (2) ALLEMANDE LEFT, (4) -----
BACK TO YOUR PARTNER (2) --, GRAND RIGHT AND LEFT (6) -----,--
SWING (6) -----,--
PROMENADE HOME (6) --,-----

TIP 2.

OPEN / BREAK / CLOSE

FOUR GIRLS PROMENADE INSIDE, (4) -----
SWING YOUR PARTNER (6) --,-----
ALL GO FORWARD AND BACK, (4) -----
ALLEMANDE LEFT (6) --,-----
WEAVE THE RING (6) --,-----
DO SA SO PARTNER (6) --,-----
PROMENADE HOME (6) --,-----
SWING PARTNER (6) --,-----

FIGURE

HEADS PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) -- --
INTO THE MIDDLE MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR, (4) -----
SIDES PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) -----
START LOOKING FOR YOUR CORNER (2) --
ALLEMANDE LEFT (2) --
WEAVE THE RING (6) --,-----
SWING (6) --,-----
PROMENADE HOME (14) --,-----,-----,-----

TIP 3

OPEN / BREAK / CLOSE

CIRCLE LEFT (14) --,-----,
-----,
FOUR BOYS STAR RIGHT (4),-----
ALLEMANDE LEFT (6) --,-----
PARTNER DO SA DO (4) --,-----
ALLEMANDE LEFT (6) --,-----
SWING (7) --,-----
PROMENADE HOME (14) --,-----,-----,-----

FIGURE

HEADS/SIDES PASS THRU --, PROMENADE PARTNER HOME --
SIDES/HEADS PASS THRU --, PROMENADE PARTNER HOME(5) --,-----, ALLEMANDE
LEFT (6) --,-----
WEAVE THE RING (6) --,-----
DO SA DO PARTNER (6) --,-----
SWING PARTNER (6) --,-----
PROMENADE HOME (10) --,-----,-----

TIP 4

OPEN / BREAK / CLOSE

FOUR LADIES STAR RIGHT, (4) -----
BOYS COURTESY TURN YOUR PARTNER, (4) -----
ALL GO FORWARD AND BACK, (4) -----
ALLEMANDE LEFT, (6) --,-----
WEAVE THE RING (6) --,-----
DO SA DO PARTNER (6) --,-----
SWING PARTNER (6) --,-----
PROMENADE HOME (6) --,-----

FIGURE

HEADS/SIDES PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) -----
INTO THE MIDDLE AND PASS THRU, (2) -- COURTESY TURN (2) --
SIDES/HEADS PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) -----
INTO THE MIDDLE AND PASS THRU, (2) -- COURTESY TURN (2) --
ALLEMANDE LEFT (6) --,-----
PARTNER SWING (6) --,-----
PROMENADE HOME (14) --,-----,-----,-----

AN EXPLANATION FOR THE WAY THE POEMS ARE WRITTEN

1. The 8 beat phrase of music is divided into two 4 beat parts with a comma between the two parts
2. When the caller reads (calls) "FOUR GIRLS PROMENADE INSIDE, (4) _ _ _ _" those four words must fit within four beats of music. The comma is a good place to get a quick breath. The number in brackets (4) is the number of beats that the caller counts (silently) before giving the next command. Each dash in a line of a poem is a wait of one beat of music.
3. The four dashes then, indicate a wait of four beats of music before the next command is given (e.g. SWING YOUR PARTNER). If filler patten is used to fill the dashes it must be able to be chanted in 4 beats of music or less.

e.g. "FOUR GIRLS PROMENADE INSIDE" *once around inside the ring*

4. If possible, eight steps of action are included on each line. The caller's voice and chant words are part of the music and commands should be chanted in time to the musical half phrases. This enables a caller to "**call**" to the dancers instead of "**talk**" at the dancers.
5. The calls in Bold Italics in the 8 selected poems can be "**fillers**" (using up "extra music") OR "**omitters**" (shortening a poem allowing the dancers to get home on time for the next figure.)

They are: **DO SA DO**, and **SWING** (Also **FORWARD AND BACK**)

If possible try to memorise your Poems - this will come with practice and familiarity.

If you use a cue card of some sort, do not hold it in your hand as you call.
Put it on the table or on a stand where you can easily read it as well as keep an eye on the squares as they dance.

CALLING A TIP

- # 1 the **TEACH** (each part of the Poem is taught as they dance)
- # 2 the **PRACTICE TIME** (both #1 and #2 are done with selected hoedown music)
- # 3 the **DANCE** (singing call)

#1 & #2 make up the “Patter” or Hoedown music part and, when followed by #3, the Singing Call, make up a two part Tip.

TEACHING AND PRACTISING

If you were using the following poems to make up a Tip:

O / B / C

CIRCLE LEFT (14)

ALLEMANDE LEFT (6)

PARTNER DO SA DO (4)

MEN STAR LEFT (6)

SWING YOUR PARTNER (6)

PROMENADE (14)

FIGURE

HEADS /SIDES GO FORWARD UP AND BACK (4)

MAKE RIGHT HAND STAR TO CORNER (4)

LOOK FOR YOUR CORNER (2)

ALLEMANDE LEFT (6)

BACK TO YOUR PARTNER (2)

GRAND RIGHT AND LEFT (6)

SWING (6)

PROMENADE (6)

This is how you would do it:

- You **Teach** “Circle Left” as they dance it and you introduce “Home”
- You **Teach** Allemande Left and with your Partner Do Sa Do
- You put these together: Circle Left to home, Allemande Left, Do Sa Do (**Practising**)
- You **Teach** Men Star Left to Partner
- You put together Allemande Left, Do Sa Do, Men Start Left to Partner (**Practising**)
- You have them Swing Partner (whatever way they could!)
- You put together Circle Left to home, Allemande Left, Do Sa Do, Men Star Left to Partner, Swing partner (**Practising**)
- You **Teach Promenade** full around back to home
- You **Teach** Heads go Forward and back and Sides Go Forward and Back
- You **Teach** Heads Star Right looking for Corner, Allemande Left and **repeat this with the Sides Starting**
- You put together Heads go forward and Back, Make Right Hand Star, to the Corner, Allemande Left and **repeat this routine with the Sides starting (Practising)**
- You **Teach** Right and Left Grand, Meet Partner and Promenade Home (or Swing and Promenade Home)
- You put together Heads go Forward and Back, Make Right Hand Star, to the Corner, Allemande Left Right and Left Grand, Swing, Partner, Promenade Home. (**Practising**)
- You **repeat with the Sides starting (Practising)**
- You called the Opener and Figure sequentially. (**Final Practice**)

Now you are ready for the Singing Call (**Dancing**)

THE SINGING CALL

The structure of a singing call

- Pick up and grace notes (The number of beats before you start to call)
- 64 beats seven times through with 8 beat phrasing (4 + 4)
- OPENER, FIGURE **twice** for Heads, BREAK, FIGURE **twice** for Sides, CLOSE

Singing Calls come with three basic types of Open, Break and Close

1. No opening Lyrics (e.g. Four Ladies promenade inside)
2. 16 beat Circle Left (Lyrics are sung)
3. 32 beat Grand Square (Longer lyrics are sung)

When you choose a Singer, it is suggested that you stick to original openers as outlined above - so choose Poems with matching choreographic timing.

You will get a call sheet with every singing call you buy that will look something like this

SLOW POKE ESP 1059

OPEN BREAK CLOSE

CIRCLE LEFT

*WHY SHOULD I LINGER

EVERY TIME YOU SNAP YOUR FINGER

YOU'RE A SLOW POKE

LEFT ALLEMANDE THE CORNER,

THEN YOU BOX THE GNAT, PULL BY

LEFT ALLEMANDE THEN WEAVE THE RING

TIME MEANS NOTHING TO YOU, I WAIT AND THEN

PROMENADE

LATE AGAIN 8 O'CLOCK, 9 O'CLOCK, QUARTER TILL TEN

FIGURE

HEADS YOU PROMENADE GO HALFWAY AROUND

LEAD RIGHT, CIRCLE 4, MAKE A LINE

GO FORWARD AND THEN

YOU DO THE RIGHT AND LEFT THRU

PASS THRU YOU WHEEL AND DEAL

SWING THRU AND THEN YOU TURN THRU AGAIN

LEFT ALLEMANDE, KEEP HER AND ROLL PROMENADE

I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO LEARN TO BE A SLOW POKE, TOO

*WHY SHOULD I HURRY

WHEN YOU NEVER SEEM TO WORRY

*WHY CAN'T YOU HASTEN

WHEN YOU SEE THAT TIME'S A'WASTIN'

These are the words you will hear sung on the recording and they will help you “hear” the way the song is put together for Square Dancing. When you adapt these two figures to your ABC figures, listening to the called side of the original will help you with word metering.

ADAPTING THE SINGING CALL

Singing Calls come with three basic types of Open / Break / Close

1. No opening Chorus (e.g. Four Ladies Promenade inside)
2. 16 beat Circle Left (Lyrics are sung)
3. 32 beat Grand Square (Longer lyrics are sung)

Often you can use the original Open/Break/Close as it will use only ABC calls, so stick with the original.

When you buy a Square Dance Singing Call (45 rpm Vinyl, CD or Mp3 download) it will come with a call sheet. Sometimes the OBC routines will vary, **but stay with the initial opening routine and use it for the Break and Close if it fits for ABC.**

Here is the original wording for that will be adapted for ABC:

LUCKY LUCKY LUCKY ME Aussie Tempos 1031

OPEN BREAK CLOSE (We are ignoring the original Middle Break change)

4 LADIES CHAIN THE RING YOU TURN THE GIRL FOR ME
YOU ROLLAWAY, CIRCLE LEFT CIRCLE LEFT YOU SEE
4 LADIES ROLLAWAY AND THEN
CIRCLE LEFT SOME MORE
ALLEMANDE LEFT YOUR CORNER GIRL
AND WEAVE AROUND THE FLOOR
SMILE AT THE SUN WHEN THE DAYLIGHT IS DONE
THE EVENING IS LOADED WITH CHARM
I WISH ON THE MOON AND WHISTLE A TUNE
AND WINK AT THE GIRL IN MY ARMS PROMENADE
LUCKY LUCKY LUCKY ME THOUGH I HAVEN'T A DIME
I DANCE AND PLAY IN A CAREFREE WAY
AND HAVE ONE HECK OF A TIME

FIGURE

HEADS SQUARE THRU YOU KNOW GET 4 HANDS AND GO
MEET YOUR CORNER LADY THERE AND DO A DO SA DO
SWING THRU YES YOU DO AND SPIN THE TOP FOR ME
BOYS MOVE UP DO THE RIGHT AND LEFT THRU YOU SEE
THE BOYS ROLL THE GIRLS AWAY,
THE GIRLS ROLL THE BOYS AWAY
YOU SWING THE ONE YOU ROLLED AWAY
AND ALL WILL PROMENADE
LUCKY LUCKY LUCKY ME, I'M A LUCKY SON OF A GUN
1 WORK 8 HOURS, I SLEEP 8 HOURS
AND HAVE 8 HOURS OF FUN

You have to adapt your chosen ABC poem to fit this word metering.

HOW A SINGING CALL IS ADAPTED TO ABC

UPPER CASE is the ABC poem.

Bold italic lower case is the adaptation of the poem to fit the word metering of Lucky, Lucky, Lucky Me. This is what you sing.

OPEN / BREAK / CLOSE

FOUR GIRLS PROMENADE INSIDE, (4) ----

Four ladies promenade inside, once around you go

SWING YOUR PARTNER (6) --, ----

Swing your partner there at home, swing the man you know

ALL GO FORWARD AND BACK, (4) ----

All go forward and back with you, it's up and back for me

ALLEMANDE LEFT (6) --, ---- WEAVE THE RING (6) --, ----

Allemande Left your corner girl and weave the ring you see

Smile at the sun when the daylight is done the evening is loaded with charm

DO SA DO PARTNER (6) --, ---- PROMENADE HOME (6) --, ----

Do Sa Do your partner there and Promenade her home in your arms

Lucky lucky lucky me though I haven't a dime

I dance and play in a carefree way and have one heck of a time

(SWING PARTNER (6) --, ---- Omit)

FIGURE

HEADS PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) ----

Heads you promenade and go, half way round the square

INTO THE MIDDLE MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR, (4) ----

Come into the middle a right hand star, and turn the star from there

SIDES PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) ----

Sides you promenade half way, half way round for me

START LOOKING FOR YOUR CORNER (2) --

Look for your corner somewhere there,

ALLEMANDE LEFT (2) --

and Allemande Left you see

WEAVE THE RING (6) --, ----

Weave the ring, it's in and out, and when you meet you girl

SWING (6) --, ----

PROMENADE HOME (14) --, ----, ----, ----

Swing her high and swing her low and promenade the world

Lucky lucky lucky me, I'm a lucky son of a gun

I work 8 hours, I sleep 8 hours and have 8 hours of fun

HERE IS A SINGING CALL WITH A 16 BEAT CIRCLE LEFT OPEN / BREAK / CLOSE

AMERICAN PIE (Royal 325)

INTRO A long, long time ago, I can still remember - the day the music died (**You may want to omit this**)

OPEN BREAK CLOSE

CIRCLE LEFT

BYE, BYE MISS AMERICAN PIE

DROVE MY CHEVY TO THE LEVY, BUT THE LEVY WAS DRY

LEFT ALLEMANDE THE CORNER, TURN A RIGHT HAND ROUND YOUR OWN

LEFT ALLEMANDE AND WEAVE THE RING

BYE, BYE MISS AMERICAN PIE

SWING YOUR GIRL AND PROMENADE HER I CRY

THEM GOOD OLD BOYS WERE DRINKING WHISKEY AND RYE

SINGING THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE

This you can leave as is except you may want to change “Turn your Partner Right” to: “With Your Partner Do Sa Do” as the Arm Turn figure is in the “A” list. But use it if you wish to teach the right arm turn in your Teach & Practise, then use this Open / Break / Close Poem as is.

FIGURE

HEADS PROMENADE HALFWAY ROUND

WALK IN AND SQUARE THRU 4 HANDS ROUND

GO ALL THE WAY AND DO A RIGHT AND LEFT THRU

VEER LEFT AND FERRIS WHEEL AROUND YOU DO

SQUARE THRU 3 HANDS AROUND

SWING YOUR CORNER GIRL AND PROMENADE MY FRIEND

THE DAY THE MUSIC DIED

Adaptation:

HEADS/SIDES PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) -----

Heads / Sides Promenade go half way round

INTO THE MIDDLE AND PASS THRU, (2) -- COURTESY TURN (2) --

Into the middle and Pass Thru and Courtesy Turn your girl

SIDES/HEADS PROMENADE HALF WAY, (4) -----

Sides / Heads Promenade go half way round

INTO THE MIDDLE AND PASS THRU, (2) -- COURTESY TURN (2) --

Into the middle and Pass Thru and Courtesy Turn your girl

ALLEMANDE LEFT (6) -- ,-----

Allemande Left your Corner

PARTNER SWING (6) -- ,-----

And with your Partner Swing

PROMENADE HOME (14) -- ,----- ,----- ,-----

Swing your Partner Promenade the Ring

The Day the Music Died

With practice, you can adapt any of the ABC Square Dancing poems to any Square Dance Singing Call music you use.

USING YOUR VOICE

- The Four “SHUNS”

Diction

Speak clearly
Avoid fall off at the end of words

Enunciation

Project and emphasise Vowels
Make Consonants clear
Open the mouth, almost exaggerate the diction

Projection

Speak as if you are talking to someone at the back of the hall - but don't shout to them

Conviction

Always speak with conviction (friendly, fun-sounding but commanding voice)
Emphasise the actual Call - Promenade, Swing, etc.

• **Breath Control**

Metering breath to last through the sentence
Proper breathing technique / using the diaphragm

Warm up your voice before calling a dance (Humming, Scales (Do Ray Me...))

Avoid cold drinks, milk products., smoking (!)

Don't shout into your microphone - if you want more voice volume turn up the voice volume control knob on you PA system.

Hold your microphone in front of your mouth, pointing straight on about two inches from your lips.

Remember that the most important words for the dancers to hear are the square dance Calls. Make sure you emphasise them.

If you lay your microphone down, or you talk to someone while still holding your microphone, be sure to turn it off - otherwise your conversation is broadcast to the entire hall.

**Never tap you microphone head or blow into it to see if it is live.
Speak into it (Testing 1, 2, 3)**

Always ask if the music volume is OK for those at the back of the hall and that everyone can hear your voice clearly.

PLANNING A DANCE

1. **Prepare**, prepare some more and then prepare some more.
2. **Write** down your program.
 - Allow about 12 - 15 minutes for each Tip with a 3 - 4 minute interval between Tips.
 - A two hour program can use up to eight Tips - but you may end up doing only six Don't try to do it all just because you have prepared it all!
 - Build in some flexibility - you may want to have the same poems prepared with different music
 - Have several Line Dances or Easy Circle or Couple dances ready (see Session 6) You may only use one or two, but have others prepared.
3. **Choose** your Hoedown music for each tip and make sure you know it intimately
4. **Choose** your Singing Calls for each tip and practise them so that you are comfortable with their timing so that if necessary, you can leave out calls whendancers get behind.
5. **Choose** your Poems for each Tip. If you cannot memorise them, have them written out big enough so that you can read them easily. Don't hold the paper in your hand.
6. **Prepare** different ways to explain things (People learn in different ways)
7. **Be fully familiar** with what you will call using a Hoedown for the "Teach & Practise"
8. **Prepare to repeat** a call or connected calls several times until you feel the dancers are comfortable (at least 80% of them) but don't do it to death.
9. **Understand** your strengths and weaknesses:
 - Great singer - use this ability to the full.
 - Not so great singer - pick songs that you feel comfortable with and learn to sing the choruses confidently.

PREPARATION FOR YOUR DANCE

1. Arrange for someone to be at the door to greet arrivals and take in money
2. Have your stage all set up and ready to go:
 - know your equipment properly;
 - check that all is working;
 - have your notes organised;
 - check music / voice balance (will need adjusting when the huge crowd arrives)
3. Circulate among the arrivals and be friendly and welcoming. Smile and look as if you mean it.
4. Encourage those who are reluctant to try. Say something like:

“OK , but how about you try the first dance. I'll keep it short and give me 10 minutes. If you don't enjoy it you're only out 10 minutes. It's really fun, if you can walk and smile you can dance ABC.”
5. Have toe-tapping music playing softly in the background to get people in the mood
6. Start on time

WHILE YOU CALL (Showmanship)

1. Praise, encourage, cheerlead - sounding as if you really mean it.
2. Keep things moving cheerfully, emphasizing important things (Pass by right shoulder, left hand - the other left hand)
3. Calling with a smile in your voice (and on your face)
4. Never single out any one dancer. Use words like “We need to remember to pass by right shoulders on a Do Sa Do etc.) Identify the problem - not the person.
5. Laugh with them not at them
6. Use breaks between Tips as a major chance to get down on the floor to chat, encourage folks, and listen.

WAYS OF FORMING SQUARES

Method 1. Say:

- We need everyone to do the first dance.
- Everyone find a partner
- Gentlemen on the left, Ladies on the right of each couple.
- We are going to make up some squares.
- Each square will have four couples - no more no less.
- Each couple will face a different wall.
- Be careful to align yourself facing directly across from another couple.
- If your square needs one or more couples hold up your hands so that others can see where they are needed.
- Do square ID: Heads, Sides, Home

Method 2.

Have all find a partner, Gentlemen have the lady on your right side and make a big circle of couples walking counter clockwise round the hall.

When you feel that most are on the floor, have a designated couple move up alongside the couple in front of them to make a line of 4 all holding hands.

When all are in lines of 4 have them stop and then have a designated line of four move up to a line of 8 still holding hands.

When lines of 8 are formed, have the 8 make a circle all holding hands.

Add dancers as necessary to complete circles of 8.

When all are in circles, have them drop hands and then you can align the squares

• “I need one couple in your circle to have their backs to me and facing another couple who will be facing me. **You are the Head couples.** (Head couples raise your hands) The other two couples will be the **Side Couples** facing each other to my left or right (Side Couples Raise your Hands). You are all now at your **Home** position. Whenever I mention Home, this is where you will need to be. Ladies, your partner will always be on your left. Hold onto your partners hand. Head Men hold out your left hand, Side Girls hold out your right hand, adjust so that you can touch hands. That’s about how big your square should be.”

Now turn up your music and start to call:

Everybody ready? Circle Left (all the way to home.)

DANCE AND MUSIC SOURCES

DANCE:

Dancing For Busy People

Calvin Campbell, Ken Kernen & Bob Howell
A great collection of dances. Music is listed.

Available from:

Calvin Campbell,
343 Turf Lane,
Castle Rock, Colorado, USA 80108
cal@eazy.net

Dancing For Fun - variety dances for everyone

Another great collection of over 200 original dances with a CD of music also available. This CD has 27 tunes. Other music for the dances is listed.

Available from:

Jim New,
#101-100 Foxhaven Drive,
Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada. T8A6B6
new1@telusplanet.net

Mooving and Grooving: A Dance Programme for Schools and Community Groups

Description can be found at www.squaredance.bc.ca

Available from:

Nick & Mary Anne Turner
942 Soda Creek Road,
Williams Lake, B.C. Canada V2G 5E4
nmtturner@telus.net

MUSIC AND DANCE SOURCES:

The Lloyd Shaw Foundation,

Box 11, Macks Creek, MO, USA 65786 ((Catalogue available))

Kentucky Dance Foundation,

Stew Shacklette, 460 Long Needle Rd., Brandenburg, KY, USA

MUSIC SOURCES:

Palomino Records: www.Dosado.com/Music

A & S Records: www.asrecords.com

Another Beat: www.another-beat.net/shop-oc/ (Many record companies listed here)

Riverboat Records: www.square.cz/riverboat/

SQUARE DANCE ABC DVDS

ABC Patio Party Dance

Watch and hear ABC Square Dancing being called and danced.

Four DVDs with Jerry Story calling an "A" a "B" a "C" and an "ABC" Dance.

Available from:

Palomino Records: www.palominorecords.com (Click on SD Videos)

MORE POEMS USING THE COMMON CALLS

FOUR BOYS PROMENADE INSIDE,
SWING PARTNER,
CIRCLE LEFT,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
WEAVE THE RING,
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE,

FOUR BOYS PROMENADE INSIDE,
SWING PARTNER,
ALL GO FORWARD AND AND BACK,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
WEAVE THE RING,
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE,

FOUR GIRLS PROMENADE INSIDE,
SWING PARTNER,
CIRCLE LEFT,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
WEAVE THE RING,
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE,

FOUR GIRLS PROMENADE INSIDE,
SWING PARTNER,
ALL GO FORWARD AND BACK,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
WEAVE THE RING
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE,

HEADS(*SIDES*) FORWARD & BACK,
HEADS/SIDES MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR, *TO THE CORNER*,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND,
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE

HEADS(*SIDES*) FORWARD & BACK,
HEADS/SIDES MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR, *TO THE CORNER*,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
DO SA DO PARTNER,
FOUR BOYS PROMENADE INSIDE,
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE

HEADS(*SIDES*) FORWARD & BACK,
HEADS/*SIDES* MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR, *TO THE CORNER*,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
FOUR BOYS STAR RIGHT, *TO THE CORNER*,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
SWING PARTNER, PROMENADE

HEADS(*SIDES*) MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR *TO YOUR CORNER*,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
WITH YOUR PARTNER DO SA DO,
FOUR BOYS PROMENADE INSIDE,
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE,

HEADS(*SIDES*) MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR *TO YOUR CORNER*,
LEFT ALLEMANDE,
WITH YOUR PARTNER DO SA DO,
FOUR GIRLS PROMENADE INSIDE,
SWING PARTNER,
PROMENADE,

ALL WITH PARTNER DO SA DO
ALLEMANDE LEFT WITH CORNER
HEAD COUPLES PROM 1/2 WAY
SIDE COUPLES PROM 1/2 WAY
ALL CIRCLE LEFT BACK TO HOME
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE

HEADS GO FORWARD AND BACK
HEADS PROMENADE 1/2 WAY
SIDES GO FORWARD AND BACK
SIDES PROMENADE 1/2 WAY
CIRCLE LEFT TO HOME
SWING PARTNER
PROMENADE

HEADS DO SA DO OPPOSITE
HEAD COUPLES PROMENADE 1/2 WAY
SIDES DO SA DO OPPOSITE
SIDE COUPLES PROMENADE 1/2 WAY
ALL CIRCLE LEFT 1/2 WAY
PARTNER SWING
PROMENADE

JOIN HANDS CIRCLE LEFT 1/2 WAY
CIRCLE BACK TO THE RIGHT 1/2 WAY
HEADS GO FORWARD & BACK
SIDES GO FORWARD & BACK
FACE CORNER DO SA DO
SWING (OR DOS A DOS) PARTNER
PROMENADE

HEADS GO FORWARD AND BACK
HEADS CIRCLE FOUR TO THE LEFT FULL AROUND
SIDES GO FORWARD AND BACK
SIDES CIRCLE FOUR TO THE LEFT FULL AROUND
DO SA DO CORNER
DO SA DO PARTNER
TAKE PARTNER PROMENADE

MEN GO FORWARD AND BACK
LADIES GO FORWARD AND BACK
HEADS DO SA DO OPPOSITE
SIDES DO SA DO OPPOSITE
ALLEMANDE LEFT CORNER
SWING PARTNER
PROMENADE

OPEN, BREAK, CLOSE (no Heads or Sides action)

ALL GO FORWARD AND BACK
4 MEN PROMENADE INSIDE
DO SA DO PARTNER
FOUR WOMEN PROMENADE INSIDE
DO SA DO PARTNER
ALLEMANDE LEFT
SWING PARTNER PROMENADE

ALL CIRCLE LEFT (16 steps)
REVERSE BACK SINGLE FILE (16)
GIRLS TURN AROUND DO SA DO PARTNER
ALLEMANDE LEFT WITH CORNER
PROMENADE PARTNER HOME

HEAD COUPLES PASS THRU
HEADS PROMENADE BACK HOME
SIDE COUPLES PASS THRU
SIDES PROMENADE BACK HOME
ALLEMANDE LEFT WITH CORNER
DO SA DO WITH PARTNER
GRAND RIGHT & LEFT
SWING PARTNER
PROMENADE HOME

HEADS CIRCLE FOUR FULL AROUND
PASS THRU PROMENADE OUTSIDE 1/2 WAY TO HOME
SIDES CIRCLE FOUR FULL AROUND
PASS THRU PROMENADE OUTSIDE 1/2 WAY TO HOME
ALL FORWARD & BACK
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE PARTNER HOME

HEAD COUPLES PROMENADE 1/2 WAY
HEAD COUPLES PASS THRU HEADS COURTESY TURN PARTNER
SIDE COUPLES PROMENADE 1/2
SIDE COUPLES PASS THRU SIDES COURTESY TURN PARTNER
ALLEMANDE LEFT (OR SWING PARTNER)
PROMENADE

HEAD COUPLES STAR RIGHT
ALLEMANDE LEFT WITH CORNER
DO SA DO PARTNER
SIDE COUPLES STAR RIGHT
ALLEMANDE LEFT WITH CORNER
SWING PARTNER
PROMENADE

DO SA DO WITH PARTNER
FOUR MEN STAR LEFT
PICK UP PARTNER STAR PROMENADE (6 steps)
BACK OUT TO MAKE A RING CIRCLE LEFT (Back to home)
ALLEMANDE LEFT WITH CORNER
GRAND RIGHT & LEFT
SWING PARTNER
PROMENADE

HEAD TWO COUPLES MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR
TO YOUR CORNER DO SA DO
WITH THAT COUPLE MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR 1 FULL TURN
AND THE GIRLS TURN AROUND
DO SA DO SAME CORNER
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE PARTNER

HEAD COUPLES STAR LEFT TO YOUR CORNER
DO SA DO
WITH THE SIDES MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR
HEAD COUPLES IN THE CENTRE MAKE A LEFT HAND STAR
BACK TO YOUR CORNER
ALLEMANDE LEFT
SWING PARTNER
PROMENADE HOME

THE ABC SQUARE DANCING LIST OF CALLS

COMMON CALLS (and the number of steps needed to complete them)

Allemande Left 8 (6)
Circle Left / Circle Right 1/2 way 8. Full around 16
Courtesy Turn 4
Do Sa Do 8
Forward & Back 8
Pass Thru 4
Promenade 1/2 way 8. Full around 16
Right and Left Grand 8 (10)
Stars (*Right-hand / Left-hand*) 8
Swing 8
Weave the Ring 8

DANCER NAMING:

Partner / Corner
Heads / Sides
Couple #1, #2/ #3, #4
Boys / Girls

ONLY THESE COMMON CALLS WERE USED DURING THE SCHOOL

FOR THE "A" DANCE:

Arm Turns (*Right / Left*) 8
Bend the Line 4
Couples Circulate 4
Lead Right 4
Veer Left / Right 4

FOR THE "B" DANCE:

California Twirl 4
Right and Left Thru 8
Rollaway 4
Star Thru 4

FOR THE "C" DANCE:

Grand Square 32
Ladies Chain family:
Two Ladies Chain 8
Four Ladies Chain 8
Separate around one 4
Split Two 2

SOME NOTES ABOUT THE CALLS IN THE “A”, “B”, AND “C” LISTS

THE “A” LIST

Arm Turns (Right / Left)

The Allemande Left is a Left Arm Turn and ends with two people back to back.

A Right Arm Turn (Turn your Partner Right) is simply an “Allemande Right” and also ends with two people back to back.

Bend the Line

This call is done by couples in one of two lines: A Line of Four, where all four in the line face the same direction or a Two-Faced Line, where one couple in the line is facing one way and the other couple in the same line is facing the opposite way.

To Bend the Line, the line simply folds in the middle so that all four people in the line will be facing the center of the set and facing the couple who were in the same line. This will require the center people to back up.

A bend the Line will result in the square forming two facing lines of four.

Couples Circulate

If the square has formed into two Two-Faced Lines, then one couple on the end of each line will be facing in and the other couple will be facing out. If all walk forward into the next couple’s spot in the square, each couple will have ‘circulated’ one position. Those facing in simply walk forward and stop in the next spot; those facing out have to walk forward and ‘round the bend’ to reach the next spot.

Lead Right

If the Head two Couple (or the Side two Couples) are commanded to Lead Right (or Lead to the Right) they will walk forward and diagonally to the right to stand directly in front of the Side couple.(Heads Lead Right: Couple #1 will be standing directly in front of Couple #2 and Couple #3 will be standing directly in front of Couple #4. Sides Lead Right: Couple #2 will be standing directly in front of Couple #3 and Couple #4 will be standing directly in front of Couple #1.)

Veer Left / Right

This is done after the command Lead Right. The two facing couples will slide to their Left (Veer Left) or Right (Veer Right) as a couple and adjust to make a Two Faced Line

THE “B” LIST

California Twirl

This call is done by a couple standing side by side holding inside hands. The inside hands are raised. The lady turns left under the arch formed by the raised hands as the man walks forward and around to the right until both have changed direction 180 degrees. Hand hold is retained throughout.

Right and Left Thru

You have almost done this call using the Common Calls when you say, “Head Couples Pass Thru, Courtesy Turn your Partner.”

A Right and Left Thru starts from facing couples. As they move forward towards each other to pass thru, they take right hands with the opposite person and gently pull by, dropping hands as they pass and then courtesy turn their partner. Thus two couples will have changed places.

Rollaway

This is done by a couple standing side by side. The man steps back leading the woman with his right hand in her left, to roll across in front of him, face to face, to his other side. As she rolls across, they let go the joined hands and rejoin the other two hands (man’s left, lady’s right) as the lady reaches the man’s left side. The couple will have changed places.

Star Thru

This call is done from facing couples.

The man will always use his right hand, the lady her left.

As the man and lady approach, they raise the right (man) and left (lady) hands above shoulder height and touch palm to palm. The lady will turn 1/4 left under the arch formed and the man will walk forward and turn 1/4 to his right. Hands are lowered and held as the two end up side by side.

Two things have happened. Each dancer has a new partner and will have turned 1/4 from their original starting position - man 1/4 right, lady 1/4 left.

THE “C” LIST

Grand Square

See diagram and explanation on next page

Two Ladies Chain

From a Square formation

The two designated ladies (Heads or Sides) will walk forward and make a two hand right hand star and turn the star to their opposite man who will Courtesy Turn her.

The men will get ready to do the Courtesy Turn by stepping forward on their left foot, turning slightly to their right with their left hand ready to take the opposite lady's left hand and then to place his right hand behind the lady's back for the Courtesy Turn.

The effect is to exchange two opposite ladies.

The ladies' star is always to the opposite man.

From facing lines of four:

The ladies in each facing couple star across to the opposite man who courtesy turns her.

Four Ladies Chain

From a Square formation

All four ladies make a right hand star and star across to the opposite man who courtesy turns the lady who was opposite him.

The effect is to have all four ladies cross the square to be with the opposite man.

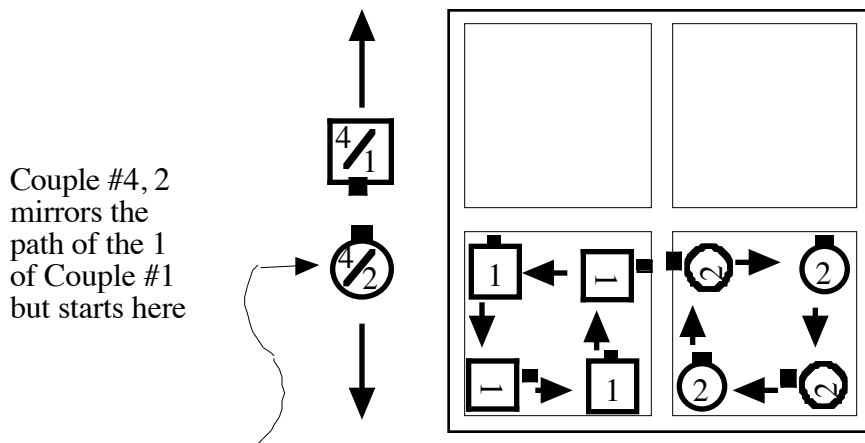
Separate around one

This call will start with the designated couple(s) turning their backs to their partner(s) and walking forward and around another dancer and wait for the next call ('to a line', 'come into the middle')

The call Separate can start from a squared formation or from Heads or Sides Pass Thru.

Split Two

Designated dancers as a couple, step between and through the couple they face (who have to step apart to let them through and then step back together) and wait for the next call (Separate e.g.)



THE GRAND SQUARE

This diagram shows the individual square paths for the Head couple (Man in the square box labelled 1, Lady in the circle labelled 2). The square “nose” on the box and circle shows which way they face and the arrows show the direction they walk.

Definition:

GRAND SQUARE: Starting formation - square. A call that has the sides doing one part while at the same time the heads are doing another. Heads move forward into the square (3 steps), turning one quarter (90*) on the fourth step to face partners and back away to the sides of the square (3 steps). Turn one quarter (90*) to face the original opposites. Back away to the corners of the square (3 steps) and turn one quarter (90*) to face original partners and walk forward to home (4 steps). **Do not turn.** (Total to here: 16 steps.) From this point the action is reversed. Heads back away from their partners (3 steps), turning one quarter (90*) on the fourth step and walk forward to the opposites (3 steps). Turn one quarter and walk forward into the centre toward partners (3 steps). Turn one quarter (90*) to face opposites and back up to home (total: 32 steps). While the head couples are doing their first “set” of 16 steps, the sides start by facing their partners to back away and do the second “set” of 16 steps, Completing this, the sides then do the first set of 16 steps, while the heads are doing their last set of 16. The principle of walking three steps and then turning (or reversing) on the fourth step is followed throughout.

This call may be broken into fractional parts by the caller directing the number of steps required.

The call may also start with the heads, or other designated dancers, directed to face.

Teaching

When teaching the Grand Square, it is a good idea to have the Sides step away from the Square as you walk the Heads through their part and then have the Heads step away while the Sides do their part

Heads walk forward 3 steps, turn to face your partner. Back up 3 steps and turn to face the person you are with. Back up 3 steps and turn to face your partner. Walk forward 3 steps and stop. Now reverse the procedure: Back away from your Partner 3 steps, turn and face a new person and walk forward 3 steps. Turn toward the centre and walk forward 3 steps. Turn towards the centre and with your partner back up 3 steps to home. Walk this through two more times with just the Heads

Sides back away from your Partner 3 steps, turn and face a new person and walk forward 3 steps. Turn toward the centre and walk forward 3 steps. Turn towards the centre and with your partner back up 3 steps to home. Reverse: walk forward 3 steps, turn to face your partner. Back up 3 steps and turn to face the person you are with. Back up 3 steps and turn to face your partner. Walk forward 3 steps and stop at home.

Walk this through two more times with just the Sides then do the whole thing with Heads & Sides together.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT "SEQUENCE"

When a poem brings dancers Home - usually by Promenading, it is important that they return home in the proper order.

If, from a Squared Set, you had all four couples Promenade, the order would be Couple #1 followed by #4, who are followed by #3 who are followed by #2 (who are, of course in front of Couple #1)

If, however, you had the Head Couples do a Right and Left Thru, or Promenade half way, and from there had all four couples Promenade Home, the sequence would be #1 followed by #2, followed by #3, followed by #4 and thus the square would be out of sequence as the Heads would not be able to return to their original Home position.

The same effect happens if you have the Head Couples Lead Right, Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Bend the Line, Go Forward and Back, Allemande Left, Grand Right and Left, Swing, Promenade Home. Your square will be out of sequence.

To correct this you need to insert a Right and Left Thru or its equivalent into the Poem:

Heads Promenade 1/2, Lead Right, Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Bend the Line

Couple Lead Right, Do Sa Do, Right and Left Thru (or Circle 4 1/2 way) Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Bend the Line

Always, when you look at a new Poem, check that there is no error for sequence.

You will also notice that if a square is out of sequence, an Allemande Left will not be with the original corner.

CHANGING PARTNERS IN SINGING CALLS

If at some point you have taught your ABC dancers all the moves in the A, B and C lists, they will be able to do a dance that uses all the ABC calls. At this point you may want to use a common square dance practice of having the ladies change partners each time in the FIGURE poem. This is done (usually) by having the dancers Swing the Corner and Promenade home. While things are easy for the men the ladies have to return to a new home position and will swap from being a Head lady to being a Side lady. (On the 4th Figure, their corner will be their original partner and so they will be able to promenade to their original home position for the Close poem to end the dance). As a Caller, treat your ladies carefully and explain that they often have the more difficult things to learn (On a Right and Left Grand, meet Partner, Promenade, the lady has to turn 180 degrees before she can promenade, while the man is only having to continue forward.)

Check out the ABC Square Dancing website:

www.ABCSquareDancing.com