

GAELIC COLLEGE SCD BOOK #8: The Handy Dozen

8.1

TWO BY TWO

3x32 bar Strathspey

3-couple Strathspey in 3-couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formations

Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3

Rosette, Reverse Rosette

1-8 ROSETTE: 1st & 2nd couples set, right hand turn halfway and twirl to partner's place (in twirl dance towards partner & pulling right shoulder back dance to partner's place), then chase clockwise halfway round to end in progressed places nearer hands joined with partner, 2nd couple in top place facing 1st couple;

9-16 HAND-IN-HAND REELS OF 3: 2nd, 1st, & 3rd couples dance Hand-in-Hand reel of 3, starting with 2nd and 1st couples passing right shoulders (this reel is performed by dancing a reel of 3 nearer hands joined with partner when dancing up or down the reel and changing hands at the top and bottom of the reel as one reverses direction so staying on your own side of the set);

17-24 REVERSE ROSETTE: 2nd & 1st couples chase clockwise halfway round, right hand turn halfway with partner, twirl, & set (all are back in original places);

25-32 LOOP PROGRESSION: 2nd couple followed by 1st couple dance down the middle, divide & cast up around 3rd couple & 2nd couple dance up the side in top place followed by 1st couple to 2nd place (4 bars): then 1st couple followed by 3rd couple dance up the middle, divide & cast down around 2nd couple & dance down the side to end with 1st couple at the bottom & 3rd couple in the middle place.

REPEAT with new top couple.

8.2

TAOBH RI TAOBH (Hand-in-Hand)

8x32 bar Reel

3-couple dance in 4-couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formation

Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3

1-4 TURN PARTNER: 1st & 2nd couples turn partner with right hand;

5-8 WHEEL: 1st & 2nd couple dance right hands across once round ending nearer hands joined with partner, 1st couple facing 2nd couple;

9-16 HAND-IN-HAND REELS OF 3: 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance Hand-in-Hand reel of 3, starting with 1st and 2nd couples passing right shoulders (this reel is performed by dancing a reel of 3 nearer hands joined with partner when dancing up or down the reel and changing hands at the top and bottom of the reel as one reverses direction so staying on your own side of the set);

17-20 WHEEL: 1st & 2nd couple dance right hands across once round;

21-24 1+ ¼ TURN ON SIDE: 1+ ¼ right hand turn, 1st man with 2nd man, 1st woman with 2nd woman (end with 2nd woman & 1st man back-to-back in middle);

25-32 REEL OF 4: 1st & 2nd couple dance a reel of 4 ending on own side in progressed places (on bars 31-32, 2nd woman and 1st man dance straight across to own side as 1st woman and 2nd man cast down and up, respectively).

REPEAT from 2nd place

8.3 **TODLIN' ATHEGITHER (Toddling altogether)**

3x32 bar Reel

Featured Formations
Hand-in-Hand reel of 3
Tandem Reel of 3, Brigadoon

3-couple dance in 3-couple longways set

BARS

- 1-4** WHEEL AT TOP: 1st & 2nd couples dance right hands across;
- 5-8** WHEEL AT BOTTOM: 2nd & 3rd couples dance left hands across;
- 9-16** TANDEM REEL OF 3: 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance a Tandem Reel of 3 (this is a reel of 3, couples dancing as one unit, one behind the other: the lead switches at the head & foot of the reel) start with 1st & 2nd couples passing right shoulders men in the lead & 3rd woman ahead of 3rd man, & end nearer hands joined with partner on own side of set;
- 17-24** HAND-IN-HAND REEL OF 3: 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3 (this reel is performed by dancing a reel of 3 nearer hands joined with partner when dancing up or down the reel and changing hands at the top and bottom of the reel as one reverses direction so staying on your own side of the set);
- 25-32** BRIGADOON: couples in 1st & 2nd positions dance in & down touching nearer hands in the middle, & out one place down the set curling upwards into the side AS couple in 3rd position dance up two places on their own side (NO CAST)(2 bars), then all set nearer hands joined on the side set; REPEAT bars 25-28 from new positions (order is now 2nd, 3rd, 1st).

REPEAT with new top couple

8.4 **HAND-IN-HAND WE'LL GO**

8x32 bar Jig

Featured Formations
Hand-in-Hand/Tandem Reel of 3
Double triangles

3-couple dance in 4-couple longways set

BARS

- 1-4** DOWN MIDDLE & CAST UP: 1st couple nearer hands joined dance down between 2nd & 3rd couples (2nd couple step up on bars 1-2), & cast up around 3rd woman (1st woman followed by 1st man & joining nearer hands dance into the middle);
- 5-8** TEAPOTS: Three Hands across: 1st woman right hands with 2nd couple & 1st man left hands with 3rd couple;
- 9-16** HAND-IN-HAND/TANDEM REEL OF 3: 2nd, 1st & 3rd couples dance a reel of 3 (2nd & 3rd couples hand-in-hand switching hands at the top & bottom of the reel, and 1st couple in tandem starting with 1st woman in the lead & switching the lead at the top & bottom of the reel);
- 17-20** TEAPOTS: Three Hands across: 1st woman right hands with 2nd couple & 1st man left hands with 3rd couple;
- 21-24** CAST: 1st woman casts up around 2nd man AS 1st man cast down around 3rd man, ending back to back in the middle ready for
- 25-32** DOUBLE TRIANGLES: 2nd, 1st & 3rd couple dance double triangles.
REPEAT from 2nd place

8.5

HERE'S A HAND, MY TRUSTY FIERE

4x32 bar Strathspey

Featured Formation

Mairi's Wedding ½ Hand-in-Hand Reels of 4

4-couple dance in 4-couple longways set

BARS

- 1-4** ENDS CROSS & CAST: 1st & 4th couples cross with right hands & cast one place towards the middle (2nd & 3rd couples step up & down, respectively, on bars 3-4);
- 5-8** RIGHT HAND WHEEL: 2nd with 1st couple, & 4th with 3rd couple, dance right hands across, ending with 1st & 4th couples nearer hands joined facing "1st corners" (2nd man & 3rd woman, respectively);
- 9-24** MAIRI'S WEDDING ½ HAND-IN-HAND REELS OF 4: 1st & 4th couples dance half Hand-in-Hand Reels of 4 around each "corner" in turn ("1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th corners") switching hands as they pass around behind each corner position (as in Mairi's Wedding except that centre couples pass right shoulders in the middle): "corners" dance half a reel of 4 each time (on bars 23-24, 1st & 4th men pass right shoulders (followed by partner) ending on opposite sides to flow into (order is 2nd, 4th, 1st, & 3rd couple);
- 25-32** RIGHT HAND WHEEL: 1st & 4th couples dance right hands across once round, cross over passing right hand with partner to own side & set.
- REPEAT from new places.

8.6

GIE'S A HAND O' THINE

4x32 bar Reel

Featured Formation

Mairi's Wedding ½ Hand-in-hand Reels of 4

4-couple dance in 4-couple longways set

BARS

- 1-8** TURN & WHEEL: All turn partner by the right hand, & then dance right hands across 1st with 2nd, & 3rd with 4th couple (2nd & 3rd couples end nearer hand joined facing "1st corners": 1st man & 4th woman respectively);
- 9-24** MAIRI'S WEDDING ½ HAND-IN-HAND REELS OF 4: 2nd & 3rd couples dance half Hand-in-Hand Reels of 4 around each "corner" in turn ("1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th corners") switching hands as they pass around behind each corner position (as in Mairi's Wedding except that centre couples pass right shoulders in the middle): "corners" dance half a reel of 4 each time (on bars 23-24, 2nd woman & 3rd man pass left shoulders all ending original places);
- 25-28** ENDS CHASE: 1st woman followed by partner casts down two places & dances into 3rd place on opposite side, AS 4th man followed by partner casts up two places & dances into 2nd place on opposite side (on bars 27-28, 2nd & 3rd couples step up & down respectively);
- 29-32** CROSS & SET: 1st & 4th couples cross right hand with partner & set (order is 2nd, 4th, 1st, 3rd couple).
- REPEAT from new places

8.7

LANDS OF KIPPO

32 bar Strathspey

Featured Formations

Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3, Keppock

2-couple Round the Room dance, women in outer circle, men in inner circle

BARS

- 1-8** SET, CIRCLE, TURN & CIRCLE: nearer hands joined with partner set to opposite couple, four hands halfway round to left (2 steps), turn partner with both hands once around (2 steps), & four hands halfway round to left (2 steps);
- 9-16** HAND-IN-HAND REEL OF 3: Nearer hands joined with partner, dance Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3 starting by passing opposite couple by the right shoulder then the next couple by the left, then pulling left shoulders back & changing hands, reel back to original places;
- 17-20** SET & MEN BETWEEN WOMEN: nearer hands joined with partner, set to opposite couple, then men joining nearer hands dance between women who cast into partner's places;
- 21-24** WOMEN BETWEEN MEN & TURN PARTNER INTO GORDON HOLD: men cast back towards original places AS women (nearer hands joined) dance between men but offer other hand to partner to turn $1 + \frac{1}{4}$ times ending with women turning under partners arm into Gordon hold (as in Gay Gordons) facing opposite couple;
- 25-32** KEPPOCH:
Bars 25-28: 1st and 2nd couples dance forward on right, hop, backward on left, hop (as in the 1st bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the right (1 bar), forward on left, hop, backward on right, hop (as in the 3rd bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the left (1 bar): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;
Bars 29-32: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side
- REPEAT with next couple round the circle
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8.8

KEPPOCK OF LOCH DUICH

32 bar Jig

Featured Formations

Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3, Keppock

2-couple Round the Room dance, women in outer circle, men in inner circle

BARS

- 1-8** SET TWICE & CIRCLE: Set to partner, set on diagonal, & four hands once round;
- 9-16** HAND-IN-HAND REEL OF 3: Nearer hands joined with partner, dance Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3 starting by passing opposite couple by the right then the next couple by the left, then pulling left shoulders back & changing hands, reel back to original places;
- 17-20** SET TWICE: nearer hands joined with partner set to opposite couple, then set to partner the women giving their other hand to their partner;
- 21-24** TURN INTO GORDON HOLD: turn partner once around ending with women turning under partners arm into Gordon hold (as in Gay Gordons) to face opposite couple;
- 25-32** KEPPOCH:
Bars 25-28: 1st and 2nd couples advance and retire using modified Pas de Basque (2 bars: advance onto right foot in 4th intermediate position, beat left foot in rear 3rd position, step onto right foot in 3rd position, and extend left foot into 4th rear aerial position, and retire with regular pas de Basque), then dance past opposite couple ("Over the Heather Step"): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;
Bars 29-32: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side
- REPEAT with next couple round the circle

8.9

TARRY WOO' (Tangled wool)

3x32 bar Strathspey

3-couple dance in Triangular Set

BARS

Featured Formation

Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3
Link

- 1-4** SET & WHEEL: 1st & 2nd couples set & dance right hands across: end facing 3rd couple;
- 5-8** SET & WHEEL: 1st & 3rd couples set & dance right hands across ending nearer hands joined with partner, & 1st couple (1st man on left hand side of partner) facing 2nd couple;
- 9-16** HAND-IN-HAND REEL OF 3: 2nd, 1st & 3rd couples dance left shoulder Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3, all switching hands with partner at each end of the reel;
- 17-24** DOWN MIDDLE & BACK: 1st couple followed by 2nd woman with 3rd man, & 3rd woman with 2nd man (all nearer hands joined) dance away from the head of the set & cast back to original places, & join nearer hands with partner;
- 25-28** ADVANCE, RETIRE & LINK: all advance 1 step nearer hands joined with partner, drop partners hand & retire nearer hands joined with corner, then link with corner (men cast as women dance in front of men curling into corner's place);
- 29-32** ADVANCE, RETIRE & LINK: all advance 1 step nearer hands joined with new partner (1 step), drop partners hand & retire nearer hands joined with new corner, then link with corner (men cast as women dance in front of men curling into corner's place).

REPEAT from new places

8.10

CARD IT WEIL (Comb it well)

3x32 bar Jig

3-couple Triangular Set

BARS

Featured Formations

Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3
Crossover wheels

- 1-4** SET & TEAPOTS: all set (1st couple advancing) & dance 3-hands across, 1st man left hand with 2nd couple & 1st woman right hand with 3rd couple;
- 5-8** CROSSOVER WHEELS: 3-hands across each person crossing into opposite wheel as they reach the middle, women passing in front of men (1st couple cross on bar 5, 2nd man & 3rd woman on bar 6, 2nd woman & 3rd man on bar 7: end nearer hands joined with partner, 1st couple facing 2nd couple, who are in 3rd position);
- 9-16** HAND-IN-HAND REEL OF 3: all dance Hand-in-Hand Reel of 3 switching hands with partner at each end of the reel (start the reel with 1st & 2nd couples passing right shoulders);
- 17-20** SET & TEAPOTS: set (1st woman to 3rd couple, 1st man to 2nd couple), and dance 3-hands across, 1st woman left hand with 3rd couple & 1st man right hand with 2nd couple;
- 21-24** CROSSOVER WHEELS: 3-hands across each person crossing over into opposite wheel as they reach the middle, women passing in front of men (1st couple cross on bar 21, 2nd man & 3rd woman on bar 22, 2nd woman & 3rd man on bar 23: all end in original places, women facing out right hands joined with partner, left with corner);
- 25-32** BALANCE IN CIRCLE & ½ TURN TWICE: all balance in the circle, change places passing right with partner, balance in circle, change places left hands with next person round the circle, ending with a new partner in a new place.

REPEAT from new places.

8.11

TWINE WEEL THE PLAIDEN (Part the wool)

3x32 bar Strathspey

Featured Formation

Mairi's Wedding ½ Hand-in-Hand Reels of 3

3-couple dance in 3-couple longways set

BARS

1-8 ADVANCE, RETIRE, CAST & TURN: 1st couple advance, touch right hands, & retire (1 step each way), cast off one place (2nd couple step up on bars 3-4), & turn each other with both hands once round opening out to face up nearer hands joined;

9-24 MAIRI'S WEDDING ½ HAND-IN-HAND REELS OF 3: 1st couple dance Hand-in-Hand Reels of 3 halfway with 2nd corners, 1st corners, 2nd corners, then 1st corners (1st couple dance round each corner position in turn as in Mairi's Wedding except that they start around man's 2nd corner [2nd woman], then woman's 1st corner [2nd man], then woman's 2nd corner position [2nd woman], then man's 1st corner position [2nd man]: 1st couple change nearer hands as they pass behind each corner position;

25-32 TEAPOTS & CAST: all dance 3 hands across on own side, then 1st followed by 3rd & 2nd couples, joining nearer hands as they meet, dance up the middle & all cast off ending in the order: 2nd, 3rd, 1st.

REPEAT with new top couple

8.12

SLANTE, AUSTRO-ALBA

3x32 bar Reel

Featured Formation

Mairi's Wedding ½ Hand-in-Hand Reels of 3

3-couple dance in 3-couple longways set

BARS

1-8 DOWN MIDDLE & BACK: 2nd couple dance down the middle & back nearer hands joined;

9-24 MAIRI'S WEDDING ½ HAND-IN-HAND REELS OF 3: 2nd couple dance Hand-in-Hand Reels of 3 halfway with 2nd corners, 1st corners, 2nd corners, then 1st corners (2nd couple dance round each corner position in turn as in Mairi's Wedding except that they start around man's 2nd corner [2nd woman], then woman's 1st corner [2nd man], then woman's 2nd corner position [2nd woman], then man's 1st corner position [2nd man]: 2nd couple change nearer hands as they pass behind each corner position;

25-32 UPWARD LOOP: 2nd couple followed by 3rd couple dance up between 1st couple, cast off and dance down the side to bottom place (3rd couple end in 2nd place), then 3rd couple followed by 1st couple dance down through 2nd couple, cast up and dance up the side to top place), 1st couple ends in 2nd place ready to start again

REPEAT with new centre couple