

# The Palindrome

Dance for 4 couples in a square set

64 bar Strathspey + 64 bar Reel

## Strathspey

- 1-8 All circle eight hands round to the left and back.  
9-10 1C and 3C set.  
11-12 1M and 3L, and 1L and 3M cross giving RH and retain hands.  
13-14 3C and 1C dance right hands across half way.  
15-16 1C and 3C pull back right shoulder and chase 1 further place clockwise, to finish 1C facing 2C and 3C facing 4C, all facing someone of the opposite sex.  
17-18 1C and 3C pass facing person LS and loop round ACW to face back the other way **while** 2C and 4C pass facing person LS and do a reverse petronella turn to pass the opposite person RS.  
19-20 Repeat bars 17-18 from new positions.  
21-24 Repeat bars 17-20. Finish back in the positions from the end of bar 16.  
25-26 Joining nearer hands, all set.  
27-28 1C & 2C, and 3C & 4C dance LH across half way.  
29-30 Joining nearer hands, all set.  
31-32 1C and 3C pull back LS and chase ACW round the set back to original positions **while** 2C and 4C pull back LS and chase ACW round the small square back to original positions.  
33-64 Repeat bars 1-32 with 2C and 4C as the dancing couples.

## Reel

*Repeat bars 64-1 in reverse (note 2C and 4C are dancing couples first)*

- 65-66 1C and 3C pull back RS and chase CW around a small square to finish in the middle facing their partner's place **while** 2C and 4C pull back RS and chase CW around the set to finish 2C facing 3C and 4C facing 1C.  
67-68 Joining nearer hands, all set.  
69-70 4C and 1C, and 2C and 3C dance RH across half way.  
71-72 Joining nearer hands, all set.  
73-80 4M, 1L, 3M & 2L, and 4L, 1M, 3L & 2M dance a reel of four, "twiddling" in the middle.  
81-82 4C and 2C pull back LS and chase 1 place clockwise around the small square in the middle.  
83-84 4C and 2C dance LH across half way.  
85-86 4M and 2L, and 4L and 2M cross over LH to return to original place.  
87-88 Joining nearer hands, 2C and 4C set.  
89-96 All circle 8 hands round to the left and back.  
97-128 Repeat bars 65-96 with 1C and 3C as dancing couples.

This dance was devised as part of a demonstration containing dances which are roughly palindromic (the same backwards as forwards). I decided to see whether I could write a dance which was completely palindromic, and this was the result.