THE GATES OF DERRY

This dance, in Single Jig Time, can be performed by any even number of couples, partners facing each other, but is best suited to four couples.

Favourite tune: The Quaker’s Wife

Please note the formation for this dance.

Formation:

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O   X   O   X
X   O   X   O
1   2   3   4
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A. Advance and Retire

The two lines of dancers, holding hands, advance towards each other, with promenade Step (2 bars), and retire to places (2 bars). Advance again and the first line raise hands to form arches; the second line, having released hands, pass through to partners´ places right shoulder to right shoulder (2 bars).

Repeat, with second line forming arches, and so back to places (8 bars). 16 bars

B. The Gates

Couples 1 and 3 take crossed hands and side-step to the right down the centre (2 bars). While dancing two „threes“, gent turns his partner clockwise under his raised right hand, having dropped his left hand to his side (2 bars). Again holding partners´ crossed hands, he side-steps back to place, finishing with two short „threes“ (4 bars).

In the meantime, Couples 2 and 4 have danced side-step to the left, to places of Couples 1 and 3 respectively, and back to original places. 8 bars

C. Rings

Couples 1 and 2 now take hands to form a ring – as do Couples 3 and 4 on their side – and dance side-step and „threes“ to the right and back again. 8 bars

D. The Gates

Couples 2 and 4 now do the Gates as at B, dancing to their left and back, while Couples 1 and 3 dance to their right outside them. 8 bars

E. Rings

Repeat C, but dancing to the left first, and returning to the right. 8 bars

F. Telescope

Odd-numbered couples take uncrossed hands and side-step to the gents´ right down the centre, whilst at the same time even-numbered couples dance side-step to the gents´ right on the outside to take up these new positions: 2 1 4 3.

With a continued „seven“, i.e., without doing two „threes“, Couples 1 and 4 change places so that the new positions now are: 2 4 1 3. (Note – Each time the centre couple change places the outside couples dance two „threes.“)

Couples 2 and 1 now repeat the first movement with Couples 4 and 3, leaving the dancers in the order: 4 2 3 1.

With a continued „seven“ Couples 2 and 3 change places arriving as follows: 4 3 2 1.

In new positions Couple 4 and 2 repeat the first movement. This leaves the dancers as follows: 3 4 1 2.

With a continued „seven“ Couples 4 and 1 change places, leaving the order: 3 1 4 2.

In these positions Couples 3 and 4 repeat the first movement. New positions: 1 3 2 4.
Couples 3 and 2 now side-step to change places falling into the positions at the beginning of The Telescope: 1 2 3 4.

**G. Right and Left Wheel**

Couples 1 and 2 join right hands across centre – as do Couples 3 and 4 on their side – and, with promenade Step dance round clockwise, turning on the fourth „three“ (4 bars). They now take left hands across and dance back to places (4 bars).

**H. Swing Around**

Each pair of couples who danced the preceding movement together now swing round each other and finish in exchanged places, ready for a repetition of the dance.

1st Repeat. The Dance is repeated together (with A omitted) except G and H. The outside couples (2 and 3) stand idle while these parts are being danced.

2nd Repeat. The whole dance is again repeated, all taking part as first time, but in new positions.

Finish. Repeat A