

CLARE LANCERS

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First Figure - The Square (Reels)		160 bars
1	Lead around: partners take crossed hand hold in front and dance around anti-clockwise to place, the gents turning the ladies under both arms into waltz hold on the last 2 bars.	8 bars
2	Swing partners.	8 bars
3	<i>Top couples: 1st gent and 2nd lady</i> pass by and swing: they dance in, passing L shoulder to L shoulder, ½ turn L to face each other (4 bars) and swing with waltz hold (4 bars) to end with their backs to their own place.	8 bars
	Pass through: each couple dances through the other, ladies in the centre, each dancer R shoulder to R shoulder with the opposite lady/gent. Partners then pass each other L shoulder to L shoulder to exchange places and turn in. Couples dance through each other R shoulder to R shoulder and partners pass L shoulder to L shoulder back to place. Side couples dance the last 2 bars in place.	8 bars
4	Swing corners , each gent with the lady on his L.	8 bars
	Swing partners.	8 bars
5	<i>Top couples</i> repeat 3. with 2 nd gent and 1 st lady leading.	16 bars
6	Swing corners. Swing partners.	16 bars
7	<i>Side couples</i> now dance 3. with 1 st gent (L of 1 st tops) and 2 nd lady leading.	16 bars
8	Swing corners. Swing partners.	16 bars
9	<i>Side couples</i> now repeat 3. with 2 nd gent and 1 st lady leading.	16 bars
10	Swing corners. Swing partners.	16 bars
11	House around , doubling the last 2 steps.	8 bars
Second Figure - Turn the Lady (Reels)		192 bars
1	Lead around. Swing partners.	16 bars
2	<i>1st top couple:</i> House within the set.	8 bars
	Turn the lady: partners face each other and the gent dances in place, turning his partner 4 times clockwise under R arm.	8 bars
	Pass by: partners pass R shoulder to R shoulder and turn into line, gent with 2 nd side couple and lady with 1 st side couple (4 bars). They pass back, again R shoulder to R shoulder, and, as they pass and dance into line with the opposite side couples, 2 nd top couple separate and fall back into the line nearest them while side couples dance in place (4 bars).	8 bars
3	Advance and retire: all take hands in lines and advance and retire twice, only side couples retiring the second time, with tops couples dancing in place to reform the set.	8 bars

4	Swing partners.	8 bars
5	<i>2nd top couple</i> now dance 2.	24 bars
6	Advance and retire. Swing partners.	16 bars
7	<i>1st side couple</i> now dance 2.	24 bars
8	Advance and retire , only top couples retiring the second time. Swing partners.	16 bars
9	<i>2nd side couple</i> now dance 2.	24 bars
10	Advance and retire. Swing partners.	16 bars
11	House around , doubling the last 2 steps.	8 bars
Third Figure - Face to Face (Reels)		144 bars
1	Lead around. Swing partners.	16 bars
2	<i>Ladies</i> advance and retire twice, bowing heads to the opposite lady on the second advance, while gents stand.	8 bars
3	<i>Gents</i> advance and retire , advance again and bow their heads, take L hands in the centre, tops beneath sides, on the last 2 bars.	8 bars
4	Wheel: partners take waist hold and all wheel anti-clockwise round to place, drop hands, gents turn clockwise and ladies anti-clockwise to face back the way they came (8 bars). Gents take R hands in the centre and waist hold with their partners, and all wheel back to place and into a big christmas (8 bars).	16 bars
5	Swing eight: all swing clockwise for 8 bars, making 1½ full circles, and jump to change feet on the last beat of the 8 th bar. They then swing anti-clockwise 1½ turns back to place.	16 bars
6	Swing partners. Ladies advance and retire. Gents advance, retire and take hands. Wheel around and back. Swing eight.	56 bars
7	Swing partners.	8 bars
8	House around , doubling the last 2 steps.	8 bars
Fourth Figure - Wheel and Swing (Reels)		192 bars
1	Lead around. Swing partners.	16 bars
2	<i>Top couples: 1st couple</i> house within the set.	8 bars
	<i>Both couples</i> lead around: partners take crossed hand hold in front and lead round clockwise within the set to finish facing the couple they passed first.	8 bars
3	Wheel R and L: couples facing each other now wheel R hand (4 bars) and L hand back to place.	8 bars
4	Swing four: the same couples now join up to swing clockwise (7 bars) and back to place on the last bar.	8 bars
5	Swing partners.	8 bars
6	<i>Top couples: 2nd couple</i> house within.	8 bars

	<i>Both couples lead around</i> anti-clockwise, to finish facing the couple they passed first.	8 bars
7	Wheel R and L. Swing four. Swing partners.	24 bars
8	<i>Side couples now dance 2.</i>	16 bars
9	Wheel R and L. Swing four. Swing partners.	24 bars
10	<i>Side couples now dance 6.</i>	16 bars
11	Wheel R and L. Swing four. Swing partners.	24 bars
12	House around , doubling the last 2 steps.	8 bars
Fifth Figure - The Line (Reels)		192 bars
1	Lead around. Swing partners.	16 bars
2	Chain and line-up: Partners face each other, R hand in R hand, chain to meet in the opposite place and turn once with waltz hold (8 bars). They continue to chain in the same direction for the next 6 bars and then form a single line, each gent behind his lady, with 1 st tops leading and facing out of the set. 1 st sides fall in behind 1 st tops while 2 nd tops are last in line. NOTE: Each side couple moves into their R of the notional gap between first and last couples.	16 bars
3	Slide L and R: Gents slide L and ladies slide R, dancing 1 2, 1 2, 1 2, 123 (4 bars). Gents slide R and ladies L with longer steps so the lines pass through each other to finish in line with side couples' places (4 bars). On the last bar, all turn inwards and take hands so that the line of gents faces the line of ladies.	8 bars
4	Advance and retire: lines advance and retire twice.	8 bars
5	Dance back and swing partners: all dance into their own positions and take waltz hold (4 bars). Couples then swing in place (4 bars).	8 bars
6	Chain and line-up behind 2 nd top couple. NOTE that places in the line remain the same, but dancers have turned to face in the opposite direction, gent behind lady. Slide L and R. Advance and retire. Dance back and swing partners.	40 bars
7	Chain and line-up behind 1 st side couple. Sides are now first and last and top couples move into their R of the gap between the sides. Slide L and R. Advance and retire. Dance back and swing partners.	40 bars
8	Chain and line-up behind 2 nd side couple. Side couples first and last, top couples to their R of the gap between the sides. Slide L and R. Advance and retire. Dance back and swing partners.	40 bars

STEPS

The set should be danced with the Clare-style reel step and should not be battered. The Jig is danced with the 'rising' jig step.

SOURCE

Donncha O Muineachain in Birmingham, January 1991.

NOTE: The 'Rule' noted at 5.2 above is of my own derivation. I have found that dancers learn the Line more readily by applying this rule than by attempting to remember their numerical positions in the four line sequences. Furthermore, the basic rule i.e. moving right rather than left into line, seems to apply to 'Line' figures in other sets also, thereby simplifying the movement.