

DUCKLINGTON(OXON)

STEPS

Classic morris step ("4-step" or "double-step") with fairly straight leg and feet parallel to ground. Arms start coming down at fairly full stretch on the first step and swing back on the 3rd. The hands are flipped up a little on the hop if possible. Left foot start throughout the dances.

Hop-back-step in hey and jigs done very close to ground, the heel of the free foot is twisted forward across in front of the supporting foot, keeping the ball of the foot on or very close to the ground. The ball of the foot is not swung across but is slid straight back. Arms and hands hang by side in back-step without significant movement, *point face forward*

Sidestep is open, ie feet not crossed. When sidestepping to left, lead with left foot. A single sidestep is l r l hl. The trailing foot is lifted up behind. The leading arm does one wide sweep per bar. The sweep is across the body from opposite shoulder around, above head and straightening out on own side, carrying on down to waist level, all in plane of body. The sidestep is either done laterally, at right angles to the way one is facing, or travelling around in a roughly triangular path. This latter is always a sidestep to left and to right and retire movement. Sidestep diagonally to left (1 2 3 h) then across to the right on the next two steps (1 2) and retire backwards to starting place (3 h) on the final step and hop.

Half-capers are springing from left foot to right (l f r h r) starting on first beat of each bar and followed by a hop on the landing foot preparatory to the next movement. The lift for the caper should appear to come from the shoulders so that the caper is performed upright, feet no kicked to much forward. The arm movement is mostly below the elbow, up and down and needs a snatch in the preceding bar to lead in. *Hand touch in front of chin*

"Tap" capers. These are neither slow nor capers. Start with left foot. The music is played in an even rhythm about the same speed as usual. Step on one foot making a deliberate tap, tap the ball of other foot about a foot in front, then a little spring onto this foot, then onto the other again, ie l tap r r l. The free foot goes forward. It was collected as hands executing two little waves at sides on each of last two steps but it is now usual to do one big wave with both hands.

GENERAL FIGURES

6/8 is a 2/4 caper with a full half caper

Foot Up (FU) : Start face up for Once to Self. 2 morris steps moving only a little forward, then turn out, odds to left, evens to right, on 2 half-capers, half round, to face down, making a little circle as turn. Then 2 morris steps moving down a little and 2 half capers turning out, evens to left, odds to right, $\frac{1}{2}$ round until facing partner.

Half Rounds (HR) : Dance 2 morris steps clockwise in a whole step circle, going into the rounds the easy way with a $\frac{1}{2}$ turn to left, not turning out to right. Then turn out to left on a half circle with 2 half-capers making a half turn to face anticlockwise, moving outwards a little. Dance 2 morris steps back to place and turn out to the right with 2 half-capers till facing partner.

Half Hey (HE) and Whole Hey (WH) : Stepping is 2 morris steps and 4 hop-back-steps for each half of the hey. Note there is no feet together movement at end of half hey. The path is that of a normal morris hey with the ends starting by turning out. After 2 morris steps, keep rotating in the same sense until travelling backwards for the back steps. Repeat immediately to place for a whole hey. As collected the middle pair always did half heys towards the music, and whole heys toward the music first half and away the second half. However this can be confusing in some dances and it is suggested that the middle pair always alternate direction.

Starting : When starting to dance from a static pose, either at the beginning of a dance, or coming in for a corner movement or taking turn in jigs, spring in with one half-caper in the last bar.

Finishing : The dances finish with a half or whole hey and the last 4 hop-backs are replaced with 4 plain capers facing the music. The arm movements are full swings down, up, down, up with arms extended, and the feet are left, right, left, right. It also makes a satisfactory ending to use 2 half-capers, turning out on the spot and ending facing up.

DANCES

Note that there are normally only 3 repetitions of the distinctive movement in each dance so that the dances normally end with the set reversed.

BONNY GREEN GARTERS

No local tune so use Headington suitably adapted.

Ducklington 2.

Order: O2ER,FW,HR with ss,WE,HR with $\frac{1}{2}$ capers,WE,HR with tap capers,WH & finish facing up.

With sidestep - sidesteps instead of double steps. Quarter turn to left into rounds to start.

Sidestep to left out from centre of circle while moving round circle, sidestep to right towards the centre, still moving round circle, 2 half capers turning to the left, outwards, half round and moving away from centre to face back. Sidestep to left towards the middle while moving back round circle, sidestep right back out to original starting place and turn out to right on 2 half capers to face partner.

With half capers - substitute 2 half capers for the 2 morris steps in HR so that movement is continuous half capers.

With tap capers - substitute 2 tap capers - music played evenly for these bars.

THE BOYS OF THE BUNCH

No local tune - commonly use "Lollipop Man" collected in Ducklington by Carey from a dancer.

Order : O2ER,FW,Corners,HR,Corners,HR,Corners,WH & finish facing up.

Corners - Danced 1st by 1&6, then 2&5, finally 3&4. Sidestep to left and to right and retire to place in triangular path, one half caper in place and then step and jump to land feet together nearly opposite other corner in middle of set. Then, passing right shoulders, cross with 2 morris steps to other corner's place then turn on 2 half capers to face across the set. The 1st 2 corners (1&6) turn back to their left, 2nd corners (2&5) to their right and the middle (3&4) turn the same way as the tops, ie 3 as 1 to left and 4 as 2 to right. If this presents a problem in memory it will be acceptable to all turn to left. Note that the sidesteps in the corners are done facing along the diagonal of the set and not facing across the set.

At the end of the dance on the last half of the whole hey, all sing either,

"We are the Boys, the Boys of the Bunch" (perhaps girls?) or

"Everyone loves the Lollipop (or Muffin) Man", depending on the tune used.

OLD TAYLOR or TYLER

Order : O2YS,FW, Salute, Corners cross with sidesteps

HR, Salute, Corners cross with half capers

HR, Salute, Corners cross with tap capers, WH to finish facing up.

Salute - by each corner in turn. Sidestep to left and to right, and retire, one half caper on spot & then caper to land on right foot, kicking left feet together in centre of set.

Corners - cross passing right shoulders with 4 sidesteps, half capers or tap capers and then turn out to face across set as in Boys of the Bunch on 2 half capers.

SET DANCE PERFORMANCE OF JIGS

Order : FW 2 at a time facing up, Jig, Sidestep 2 at a time facing up, Jig, Tap capers 2 at a time facing up, Jig finishing facing up.

Face-up - 1st 8 bars - 1&2 dance, facing up throughout, a 4 bar sequence repeated & turn out on last half capers then while next pair dance walk to bottom of set and stand facing in. The other 2 pairs move up one place, the 2nd pair on the 1st beat, the 3rd by the time the tops reach the bottom.

- 2nd 8 bars - 3&4 as above but walk into the middle place and face in. 5&6 move up on 1st beat of next 8 bars. 1&2 remain stationary at bottom.

- 3rd 8 bars - 5&6 as above, turn on spot at end to face in. Set is now inverted.

Set inverts each such sequence. Pair currently at top start each face up movement.

There are 3 different sequences done in this manner.

1st - 2 morris steps on spot, 2 half capers, repeat. (8 bars in all)

2nd - sidestep to left and right and retire, moving diagonally forward to left then right, and then back to starting place along a triangular path, 2 half capers, repeated.

3rd - 2 tap capers on spot, 2 half capers etc.

HUTTING GIRL - tune from Arnold Woodley's uncle in Bampton.

Jig: Long open sidestep laterally to left and right facing in throughout followed by a half hey. This sequence is repeated back to starting place.

PRINCESS ROYAL

Jig: Long open sidestep laterally to left and right followed by a whole hey. Note no sidestep half way through hey as in Nutting Girl.

JOCKEY TO THE FAIR

Jig: Long open sidestep to left and to right followed by a special whole hey.

Ducklington 3.

The whole hey is started by turning out on the spot with 2 half capers, then doing a change ends, ie the rest of the half hey movement with 4 mild hop steps, travelling forward, arms down by side. Then turning out on spot again with 2 half capers, then rest of 2nd half hey with 4 hop steps, finally turning out again in place with 2 half capers. These turns are called "twizzles". In the last hey the final twizzle can be substituted by 4 plain capers facing up.

Twizzles - the end pairs turn out to face other end of their side of the set as starting a hey. Note there is only this turn, the twizzle in the hey - it is the turn out movement. However the middle pair first twizzle downwards, away from the direction they move off to complete the hey, then twizzle downwards again to start the second half hey, then finally upwards on return to place. That is, follow the tops except at the start.

THE SOLO OR DOUBLE JIGS

These have the same stepping as the set dances but the stepping for the "jig" is done facing up to the music throughout.

INVENTED DANCES

Cuckoo's Nest

All face up - 1st pair short sidestep to left and to right,
2nd pair short sidestep to left and to right,
3rd pair short sidestep to left and to right,
All 2 half capers, turning out to face down.
Repeat, starting with bottom pair.

2nd time through - use half capers instead of sidesteps
3rd time through - use tap capers instead of half capers.

Shepherd's Hey - mentioned by Sharp

Any of the handclapping movements in one of the above dance patterns.

Two stick dance - seen in USA - there are no Ducklington stick dances traditionally.

Dance like Lollipop Man - two sticks hit together in front of head on the 2nd half caper in each movement and sometimes on both half capers.

Corners like Lollipop Man except that bars 3/4 done facing in middle and sticks hit with opposite corner r+r, l+l on the half capers, pass right shoulders in bar 5 etc.

1st time bars 1/2, 5/6 are sidesteps, 2nd time are half capers, 3rd time are tap capers.

Saturday Night - in one line

Use morris step and sidestep sequence movements alternately with progression.

Leapfrog - tune Hey Middle Dis

Leapfrog hey on sides. Bar 1 - 1&2 over 3&4 who go down in middle of sides of set
Bar 2 - 5&6 over 1&2 who go down etc
Bar 3 - 3&4 over 5&6 etc
Bars 4 - 6 - continue to place
Bars 7 - 8, all 4 capers facing up.

Clevedon Bridge - single stick each - sticks crossed in O2YS and at end of dance. (6 bar B?)

Fig 1 - FU as usual, up & down. Fig 2 - all do sss l&r + 2 1/2 capers 2x facing up

Fig 3 - All do tap capers etc. Fig 4 - whole hey & finish facing up.

Chorus - circular hey, 1 faces 3, 5 to 6, 4 to 2 and start passing right shoulders. Go round to meet starting person with a clash, then hit butts, tips, butts, tips with plain capers, carry on to place.

As collected by Sharp etc galley used in dances where half capers above.

Notes:

In long sidesteps there are 2 "shows"

In Jigs as Set Dances pair who go 1st in 2nd & 3rd face-up need to wits about them to be ready to start out of the hey facing up, when final movement in hey is backing up set.

Turn out in general on 2nd half caper not the first.

Trunkles salute can have the 2 half capers turning back to place like galley rather than kick feet together.