

BASQUE GARLAND DANCE

Source: collected at Letterkenny International Folk Festival.

Garland: wooden hoop, material of garland, sailcloth. Made in alternate circles of red and white, 20 of each colour, red at ends. Stitched alternately like a Christmas decoration.

Garland removable for travelling and washing.

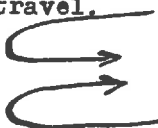


Stepping: 1 2 3 hop with pronounced kick up of skirt on the hop.

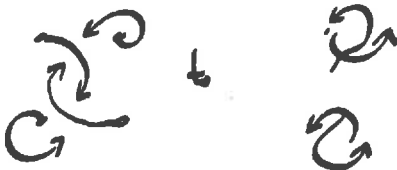
ENTRY : in two lines of four, well apart, to basic step.

DANCE :

1. Inside Cast : cast in from top and go down middle. Not repeated to place. All face direction of travel.



2. Roll : All turn to face partner. Garlands, which are normally carried upright, tilted so that tops are and remain in contact. Pairs dip and dive to change ends. All move together and do not come in progressively. Under first by pairs going up set.
3. Ladies Chains : in 4's - 2nd corner pass by right and turn 1st corner by left and then back to place same way. 1st corners do preparatory turns to left before turning the 2nd's.



Repeated by other corner but with other hands and direction of turns.

4. All circle 8 around to left, clockwise, all the way round. Face round.
5. Four in centre circle round once to right. Other four step on spot facing centre of set.
6. All step slowly to form two lines across the set, and bow.
7. All step on past, to form one single line.



8. Full reel of 8, all start together not progressively, keeping garlands parallel to set with quick turns as passing.
  9. No. 1 leads all off into a big circle to right, anticlockwise. Break off after complete circuit and come up middle to starting place.
  10. All face up, step and slowly move into one line across, tops in middle.
- ? Additional fig: between 4 & 5. Go into two circles of 4, going different ways and switch into a figure eight, crossing from one circle to another.

