

THE CEILIDH (Scotland)

Ceilidh (Kay' lee) means a social gathering or party. This is a contemporary country dance composed by Hugh Thurston of Canada, collaborating with a friend from New Zealand. C. Stewart Smith learned it in May 1963 on a visit to Vancouver, B. C.

Music: Any good strathspey. (4/4 meter)

Formation: Sets of 2 cpls facing each other in a double circle, W on M R with inside hands joined, shoulder height; outside hands hang freely at sides. (Or W may hold skirt.)

Steps and Styling: Strathspey Step: Step fwd on ball of R ft, keeping ft close to floor (ct 1); closing step L ft up to and behind R, L instep close to R heel (ct 2); step fwd on R bending R knee slightly and keeping ft close to floor (ct 3); hop on R bringing L ft through close to floor, knee turned out and toe pointed down (ct 4). The motion of the strathspey is down and up in feeling rather than level. Begin next step L moving fwd. Always start each pattern R. Strathspey Setting Step: Step R to R, knee and toe turned out (ct 1); close L behind R, L instep close to R heel (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); hop on R bringing L ft up behind R ankle, L knee turned out and toe pointed down (ct 4). Begin next step sdwd L. Highland Schottische Step (2 meas): Hop on L and point R toe to R side (ct 1); hop on L and bending R knee, bring R ft behind L calf, R knee turned out and toe pointing down (ct 2). Do same for cts 3 and 4, but on ct 4 put R ft in front of L leg. Dance 1 Strathspey Setting step R (meas 2). Begin next step hopping on R, pointing L to L side and dancing 1 Strathspey Setting step L.

Measures Pattern

INTRODUCTION: M bow, W curtsy.

- 1-2 All dance strathspey setting steps R and L.
- 3-4 Join both hands with opp (M palms up) and dance around turning once CW (L). 2 strathspey steps (R, L).
- 5-8 All join hands in a circle of 4 and dance once around CW with 4 strathspey steps.
- 9-12 Release hands and dance a R shoulder dos-a-dos around the opp with 4 strathspey steps.
- 13-16 Join inside hands with ptr and dance 2 Highland Schottische steps, 1 diag fwd R and 1 diag fwd L, progressing fwd to the next cpl. (M pass L shoulders).

Repeat dance with new cpl.

Presented by Madelynne Greene