

40 Merks (Strathspey 8x32)

Three couples in a longways set of four

40 Merks is the amount of money which was allegedly paid to the servant who spied on William Wallace resulting in his capture by the English.

1-2 First couple dance down the middle for two steps with nearer hands joined.

3-4 First couple face each other and dancing as for a Highland Schottische, dance up the middle the man shedding with the left foot to start, and the lady with the right.

5-6 First couple cast one place, Second couple step up.

7-8 First couple set advancing to pass left shoulders and face first corners.

9-12 First couple dance the path of corners pass and turn, pass right shoulder and finish facing second corners, while first corners change places right hands.

13-16 First couple dance the path of corners pass and turn and finish in second place on the wrong side, while the second corners change places right hand.

17-18 Second and third couples set, while first couple cross over right hand and finish facing out.

19-20 Second and third couples dance right hand across half way round, while first couple cast to their right, first lady finishing between third couples position facing up, and first man between first couples position facing down.

21-22 Second and third couples set, while first couple cross over giving right hand and finish facing out.

23-24 Second and third couples dance right hands across half way, while first couple cast to their right and finish second place own sides.

25-28 First couple dance half a reel of four with first corner positions, pass right shoulder to face second corner positions.

29-32 First couple dance half a reel of four with second corner positions, first couple cross over passing right shoulder to own side. Finish 2,1,3,4.

Repeat having passed a couple



Sue Petyt

November 2002