

# Reel of Six

(England)

Reel of Six is based on *The Complete System of English Country Dancing* by Thomas Wilson, 1820.

Cassette: Vintage Dance—Stockton 1998 2/4 meter  
 Music can be Fisher's Hornpipe, Money Musk, or any lively reel.

Formation: A trio of 2 M and 1 W faces a trio of 2 W and 1 M. Hands joined along lines in W-pos.

MA            WB            MC

WD            ME            WF

Steps: Kemshoole (Traveling step): Step fwd on R (ct 1); close L up to R, taking wt (ct &); step fwd on R (ct 2); hop on R (ct &). Step alternates. This is done rapidly, shading the body to the sides on each step, turning a little to the L when the R is advanced and vice versa.

Minor Kemkossy (Footing step—2 per meas): Place the R ft behind the L (in 5th pos) and sink onto it (ct 1); hop on R (ct &); repeat cts 1, & with opp ftwk (cts 2,&).

Single Kemkossy (Setting step): Step on R behind L (to 5th pos) (ct 1); bound (leap) onto L to L (ct &); step on R behind L again (ct 2); hop on R, extending free L leg to side (ct &).

Double Kemkossy (Traveling to the side—2 meas): Step on R behind L (5th pos) (ct 1); bound (leap) onto L to L (ct &); step on R behind L (ct 2); leap onto L to L (ct &); step on R behind L (ct 1); leap onto L to L (ct &); step on R behind L (ct 2); hop on R, extending free L leg to side (ct &).

Lematrast (Cross springs): Leap onto R crossing just in front of L (5th pos) (ct 1); step back on L slightly to L (uncross) (ct &); step straight back on R (ct 2); hop on R (ct &). Step alternates.

Aisig-Thrasd (Cross passes—setting step similar to Lematrast step): Leap onto R slightly to R, crossing L ft closely over R (ct 1); hop on R, uncrossing the L (ct &); cross L over R again (ct 2); hop on R (or pause) (ct &). Step alternates.

Fosgladh (Open step—2 per meas): Slip the ft apart to 2nd pos (both ft flat on the floor) (ct 1); spring straight up into 5th pos on balls of ft, knees straight (ct &); drop back into 2nd pos (ct 2); string into reverse 5th pos (the ft that was behind the first time now comes in front) (ct &). As a variation, you may end with a quick half-turn, unwinding from the 5th pos to 2nd pos facing the opp direction.

## Meas

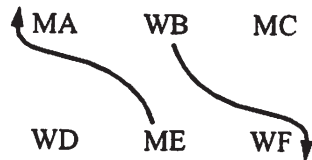
## Pattern

### FIGURE A

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1-2 | Trios travel fwd with 2 Kemshoole steps R, L.            |
| 3-4 | Hands still joined, set R, L with 2 Lematrast steps.     |
| 5-6 | Set R, L with 2 Single Kemkossy steps.                   |
| 7-8 | Retire to places with 4 Minor Kemkossy steps R, L, R, L. |

## Reel of Six—continued

- 9-16 Middle dancer (WB and ME) use 8 Kemshoole steps to travel fwd to L and dance a Hey for 3 on the opp side (shading the shldrs).



Note: On the heys, when crossing through the ctr of the figure-8, always head *out*; when reaching the end of the line, always head *in* twd the set. At the end of 8 meas, all end in their orig places, WB and ME end their hey slightly twd ctr of the set, facing out, others facing in.

- 17-18 Take hands 3 in a circle (two separate circles) and circle L with one Double Kemkossy step.  
 19-20 Set R, L with two Single Kemkossy steps.  
 21-22 Circle R with one Double Kemkossy step.  
 23-24 Set R, L with two Single Kemkossy steps.  
 25-32 With 8 Kemshoole steps, outer two dancers arch their connected arms (A arches with C) and lead the ctr dancer through and to the R; arching two pass each other by the L shldrs, starting a Hey for 3. End in original places facing opp trio.

FIGURE B

- 1-2 Trios travel fwd with 2 Kemshoole steps R, L.  
 3-4 Drop hands and set with 2 Lematrast steps to the one you meet (M snap fingers in air).  
 5-6 Join both hands with opp dancer and circle quickly to L (CCW) with 2 Kemshoole steps.  
 7-8 Join hands in one large circle while backing out with 4 Minor Kemkossy steps R, L, R, L.  
 9-10 All circle L with one Double Kemkossy step.  
 11-12 Set R, L with two Single Kemkossy steps.  
 13-14 Circle R with one Double Kemkossy step.  
 15-16 Set R, L with two Single Kemkossy steps. On the last steps, M turn R and W turn L to face "partners."  
 17-18 Drop hands and set with 2 Aisig-Thrasd steps to ptr (M snap fingers in air). M cross over to R, then L; W cross to L, then R.  
 19-20 Continue with three Fosgladh crosses, M crossing R behind L to beg, W opp. On the third cross, spin quickly (M to R, W to L), dropping into 2nd pos facing corner.  
 21-24 Repeat meas 17-20 facing corners and ending facing ptrs.  
 25-32 With 8 Kemshoole steps, dance a Grand Chain around the set. Begin with R to ptr.

Alternate Figures A and B.

Original notes by Richard Powers  
 Presented by Joan Walton