

# THE ROYAL ALBERT

(England)

The Royal Albert is a popular English Country Dance from the 19th century. It was presented by Mibs Matthews at the University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp, Stockton, California in 1972.

MUSIC: EFDSS Records, ED 103, side 1, band 1 "The Royal Albert" (45)

FORMATION: Longways, cpls facing, M L shoulder to the head of the hall. Cpls are numbered 1, 2, 1, 2, from the head to the ft of the set.

STEPS AND  
STYLING: Buzz step \*

Skip Change (also called "flat threesome"): similar to the Scottish Skip Change, but flatter in style. Hop L (ct 6), step fwd R (ct 1), close L to R (ct 6), step fwd R (ct 2). Repeat of step begins with hop on R ft. Weight is fwd on ft, heel slightly raised from floor; movement is smooth.

Quadrille Setting (2 meas): step R ft to R (ct 1), step L ft behind R (ct 2), step R ft to R (ct 1), touch L toe in front of R ft (ct 2). Repeat of step begins with L ft.

Modified Pas de Basque: leap diag fwd of R ft (ct 1), step L ft beside R (ct 6), step R in place (ct 2). Repeat of step begins diag bkwd on L ft.

This dance is done with an erect carriage and hands free at the sides when not in use.

\* Described in volumes of "Folk Dances From Near and Far", published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., San Francisco, California 94103.

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## MUSIC 2/4

## PATTERN

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### Measures

Chord INTRODUCTION No action.

#### I. BASKET SWING

1-8 M1, W1, W2 form basket, arms around waists, W1 on M L side. Turn basket CW with 15 buzz steps. On meas 8, ct 2, W break and open basket to form a line facing down the set. M2 wait in place, no action.

#### II. DOWN AND BACK

1-4 W2, M1, W1 dance down the set with 4 skip change steps. Turn individually on last ct of meas 4 to face up the set.

5-8 Line of 3 dance back up the set with 4 skip change steps. End with cpl 1 on W side of set, cpl 2 on M side of set, M on L of W. M2 move up to M1 pos on meas 8.

#### III. QUADRILLE SETTING AND SWING

1-4 Ptrs face and do quadrille setting step to R and L.

5-8 Ptrs take ballroom pos, R hips adjacent and swing CW with 8 buzz steps.

#### IV. LADIES CHAIN

1-2 W dance fwd with 1 skip change step to take R hands with shake hand grasp, dance past each other with 1 skip change step, drop hands.

3-4 Take L hand with opp M, turn CCW with 2 skip change steps to make 1 full turn, drop hands. Do not do curtesy turn.

5-8 W repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig IV) to meet ptr. End with W on M R side, same as in Fig II, meas 8.

#### V. PROGRESSION

1-8 Cpls 1 and 2 take ballroom pos and dance around each other CCW with 7 modified pas de basque steps. M begin with L ft, W begin with R ft and turn CW as a cpl. On meas 8, step into place, M on M side, W on W side, cpl 1 below cpl 2.

Dance is repeated 4 more times, cpl 1 dancing with new cpl 2 below them each time. Cpl 1 at bottom of set wait one time through dance and become cpl 2. Cpl 2 at head of set wait one time through dance and become cpl 1.

The 3rd and 4th times through the dance are done to a different melody.