THE DOUBLE SIXSOME
(Scotland)

The Double Sixsome, a dance for six couples, was devised by Mary Brandon and taught by her at the 1975 Mendocino Folklore Camp.

MUSIC: Record: Pasadena Teachers Choice #2-52575 A "Double Sixsome"
Express 45 "Double Sixsome"
The tunes used are "Bert Mc Croskie" and "Walking on the Moon".

FORMATION: 6 couples in longways formation. Beginning at the top, couples are numbered from 1 to 6 with the bottom couples 4, 5 & 6 crossed over to the wrong side of the dance. (See diagram)

STEPS AND PATTERNS:
- Skip change of step*, Slip step*, Set*, Bow and curtsey*.
- Allemande*, Hands across*, Rights and lefts*.

*Described in STEPS AND STYLING, July 1977, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., Hayward, California.

MUSIC 2/4
PATTERN

I. FORWARD AND BACK: AROUND PTR

1-4 All 6 W with hands joined in 2 lines of 3 people dance fwd twd M with 2 skip change of step and then bkwrd to place with 2 skip change of step. M stand in place.

5-8 With 4 skip change of step all M dance fwd and CW around ptr, passing R shldr with her and finishing facing her with both hands joined and stretched just slightly out to the sides.

II. SIDeward SLIDES

9-16 Cpls 1, 2 and 3 move down the dance with 8 slip steps and back up again with 8 slip steps. Simultaneously, cpls 4, 5, 6 move up the dance with 8 slip steps and down again with 8 slip steps. M pass back to back. Finish with all cpls in allemande (varsouvienne) pos, cpls 1, 2, 3 facing up and cpls 4, 5, 6 facing down the dance.

III. THREE COUPLE ALLEMANDE

17-24 Using skip change of step throughout, cpls 1, 2, 3 dance an allemande with cpl 3 moving between cpls 1 and 2 during meas 19-20. Simultaneously, cpls 4, 5, 6 dance an allemande with cpl 4 moving between cpls 5 and 6 (meas 19-20). Finish in order from the top 2, 3, 1, 6, 4, 5.

IV. HANDS ACROSS

25-32 Cpls 1 and 6 dance R hands across in the middle with 4 skip change of step. Reverse and dance L hands across with 4 skip change of step. All others stand in place.

V. RIGHTS AND LEFTS

Cpls 2 and 3, and likewise cpls 4 and 5, dance rights and lefts with 8 skip change of step. Cpls 1 and 6 stand in place.
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VI. CROSS AND BETWEEN AT OWN END

41-46  Using skip change of step throughout, cpl 1 with L hands joined dance up the ctr. Using joined hands to help pull by before releasing them, cross above cpl 3 (W in front of M), dance out between cpls 2 and 3 and then up and around cpl 2. Cpl 1 join nearer hands and dance down the ctr. Simultaneously, cpl 6 with L hands joined dance down the ctr, cross below cpl 4, dance between cpls 4 and 5, down and around cpl 5 and then dance up.

47-48  Cpls 1 and 6 meet in the middle. M 1 and W 6, and likewise W 1 and M 6, join both hands and turn 1/2 CW with 2 skip change of step. On last ct release hands and turn individually halfway around twd ptr (M CCW, W CW), so that M 1 and W 1 continue to face down, while W 6 and M 6 face up the dance.

VII. CROSS AND BETWEEN AT OPP END

49-56  Repeat action of Fig VI with cpl 6 dancing the action of cpl 1 and with cpl 1 dancing the action of cpl 6. Finish with cpl 1 in 3rd place and cpl 6 in 4th place.

VIII. SET TWICE AND TURN PTR

57-64  All join hands in 2 long lines on each side and set twice to ptr. Turn ptr with R hands once CW with 4 skip change of step, finishing back in place.

Repeat dance twice more, finishing in orig place.

Chord  M bow, W curtsey.