

FRENCH REEL
(Danish - Jutland)

This is a progressive longways dance for any number of couples. When danced by an odd number of couples, one couple is idle at alternate ends of the set each round of the dance. Odd and even numbered couples form minor sets and dance the dance through once before new minor sets are formed.

Music Record: His Master's Voice B2711
Piano: Burchenal, Elizabeth; Folk Dances of Denmark

Formation M and W form two lines facing each other. M are on the R as seen from the head of the line.

Steps Skipping* (two to a measure); Walking* (two to a measure); French Reel

Music (2/4)	Pattern
	<u>I. Shake Hands</u>
A 1 - 2	No. 1 M turns to No. 2 W and shakes his R hand 4 times, while No. 1 W turns to No. 2 M and does the same.
3 - 4	Repeat action of meas. 1-2, shaking L hands four times.
5 - 8	Repeat action of meas. 1-4 with own partner.
	<u>II. Clap Hands and French Reel Steps</u>
B 9	Clap own hands (ct. 1) clap partner's R hand (ct. 2)
10	Clap own hands (ct. 1) clap partner's L hand (ct. 2)
11	Clap own hands (ct. 1) clap both hands of partner (ct. 2)
12	Clap own hands three times (cts. 1 and 2)
13 - 16	With hands on hips dance 4 French Reel steps in place while continuing to face partner. Start with L ft. <u>French Reel Step:</u> Swing R ft. in an arc forward, outward and backward and step directly behind supporting L ft. Immediately raise L ft. (ct. 1), take a small hop forward on R at the same time swinging the L forward, outward and backward (ct. and). Step with L directly behind the R and immediately raise R (ct. 2). Take a small hop forward on L at the same time swing the R (ct. and). In the <u>French Reel</u> the free ft. is swung in a larger arc than in the <u>Reel Step</u> . It is never very high.
	<u>III. Circle L and R</u>
B 9 - 12	Join hands in a circle of 4 (one odd and one even couple), start with an appel (stamp) on L ft. and take 8 skipping steps clockwise.
Repeat	
13 - 16	Reverse direction starting with an appel, and take 8 skipping steps counterclockwise. Drop back to places on last step.
	<u>IV. Half Chain</u>
C 17 - 18	With an appel on first step take 4 walking steps, joining R hands with partner, and passing R shoulders to change places.
19 - 20	Four walking steps, joining L hands with side partner (odd and even M and odd and even W), passing L shoulders to change places.
21 - 22	Four walking steps, joining R hands with own partner, passing R shoulders to change places. Couples have now progressed.
23 - 24	Four small walking steps backward, moving away from partner.
	<u>V. Arches.</u>
C 17 - 20	The same odd and even couples on the M's side form an arch by joining inside hands. W join inside hands keeping them low. With eight walking steps forward (appel on first step), M and W exchange places, W passing under arch.
21 - 24	After releasing hands, facing about, and joining other hands with same person, repeat action of meas. 17-20, with W forming arch, and M passing under arch as all dancers return to own side. Odd numbered couples now form new minor sets with even numbered couples directly below them and the dance continues to be repeated. Where there are an even number of couples in the long set, the top and bottom couples are idle during this round.