

## Last of the Lairds

(Scotland)

The Last of the Lairds is a 32-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longways set. Devised by Hugh Thurston from traditional formations, it was published by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society in 1963. Robert McOwen presented it at the 1995 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, CA.

Cassette: Dances frae the North, FAC CS 135 Side A/3 6/8 meter

Formation: Sets of four couples in longways formation\* numbered 1-4 from the top of the set.

Steps and Styling: Skip change of step\*, set\*, cast off\*, cast up\*, slip\*, move up\*.

Crossover Mirror Reels of Three (modified) (16 meas): The floor pattern is the same as for the Reels of Three\* but each cpl in turn crosses over to dance a Reel of Three on opp side and then crosses back to dance a Reel of Three on their own side. As each cpl reaches the top of the set, they cross to the other side, going through second place with the W crossing in front of her ptr. To dance a reel on opp side: Cpl 1 cross over on meas 1, cpl 2 on meas 3, Cpl 3 on meas 5. For the second reel on own side: Cpl 1 cross back on meas 9, Cpl 2 on meas 11, Cpl 3 on meas 13. Every M follows the same track of the M ahead and every W the same track as the W ahead.

Skip Change of Step (begin with R ft) is danced throughout unless otherwise noted. One step to a meas.

See "Scottish Glossary\*" for styling information.

\* Described in the "General Glossary" and "Scottish Glossary" sections of *Steps & Styling*, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

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Measures	6/8 meter	PATTERN
Chord	<u>INTRODUCTION</u> . Bow or curtsy to ptr.	
	I. <u>CROSSOVER MIRROR REELS OF THREE</u>	
1-16	Cpls 1, 2, and 3 dance Crossover Mirror Reels of Three. Cpl 1 begin by dancing diag down through second place on opp side. Cpl 2 begin by dancing out and up. Cpl 3 begin by dancing in and up.	
	II. <u>FIRST COUPLE DANCES: ALL TURN WITH RIGHT HANDS</u>	
1-2	Cpl 1 set.	
3-4	Cpl 1, giving R hands, cross over and cast off into second place. Cpl 2 move up into first place.	

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- 5-8 Cpl 1, briefly taking nearer (inside) hands, lead down the middle crossing over below Cpl 3; cast up into second place on own side.
- 9-12 Cpl 1, taking nearer hands, dance up the middle to the top and cast off into second place.
- 13-16 All three cpls turn ptrs by the R hand once around (CCW).
- 32 meas Cpl 1 repeat the dance from second place with the two cpls below. After the final turn by the R hand, Cpl 1 separate and dance to the bottom on the outside. At the same time, original Cpl 4, after turning by the R hand, stay in the middle of the set and move up ready to start the Crossover Mirror Reels as the new Cpl 3.

SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written four times, each cpl dancing the pattern twice, once from 1st pos and once from 2nd pos.