

Shrewsbury Lasses (England)

Shrewsbury Lasses is a set dance published in the Apted Collection in 1765. The dance was presented by Marianne Taylor at the 1985 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

RECORD: CDS LP6 "By Popular Demand" Side A/3. 2/4 meter

FORMATION: Three cpls in longway formation numbered cpl 1 (twd top of set), cpl 2 and cpl 3.

STEPS: Run* (light, flowing step, usually 2 steps to a meas), Skip* (2 steps to a meas).

Slow Set and Honor: Step on R to R (meas 1); M bring L beside R and bow (bend fwd and straighten from the waist, looking at opp dancer), W curtsey (keeping body erect, bring L ft behind R and bend and straighten knees) (meas 2); repeat with opp ftwk (meas 3-4).

Cast Down: Turning up twd the top of the set, dance away from ptr and down the outside of the set.

Cast Up: Turning down twd the bottom of the set, dance away from ptr and up the outside of the set.

Lead Up: Meet ptr and move twd top of set. Ptrs may join inside hands.

Lead Down: Meet ptr and move twd bottom of set. Ptrs may join inside hands.

Two-hand Turn: Join both hands (R in L) and dance a complete CW turn.

STYLING: Flowing motion is achieved by leading with the body rather than with the feet. Arms hang relaxed, moving easily with the motion of the dance. Eye contact is maintained whenever possible, and is specially important in Slow Set and Honor. On turns, hands are joined at chest level, maintaining comfortable tension.

*Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc, 1275 "A" Street, Room 111, Hayward, California 94541.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

- note INTRODUCTION No action is specified, however dancers can acknowledge ptrs.
- A1 1-4 M1 slow Set and Honor to W2. W2 watches, not dancing.
5-8 M1 and W2 turn once (CW) with a Two-hand Turn.
- A2 1-4 W1 Slow Set and Honor M2. M2 watches, not dancing.
5-8 W1 and M2 turn once (CW) with a Two-hand Turn.
- B1 1-2 Cpl 1 Cast Down as cpl 2 Lead Up.
3-6 Cpls 1 and 3 join hands and circle once to L (CW).
7-10 M1 skip up and around cpl 2 (CW); W1 skip down and around cpl 3 (CW). Both end in 2nd pos on the opp side of the set.
11-12 Cpl 1 turn 1/2 (CW) with a Two-hand Turn to end on original side of the set. End facing down, retaining inside hands to begin next step.
- B2 1-2 Cpl 3 Cast Up as cpl 1 Lead Down.
3-6 Cpls 3 and 2 join hands and circle once to the L (CW).
7-10 M3 skip up and around cpl 2 (CW); W3 skip down and around cpl 1 (CW). Both end in 2nd pos on the opp side of the set.
11-12 Cpl 3 turn 1/2 (CW) with a Two-hand Turn to end on original side of the set.

Dance is repeated with new cpl beginning the dance. CDS LP6 provides enough music for each of the cpls to lead the dance.