

Arlington Fancy

(an improper duple minor longways dance for as many as will)

Set-up: Form a line of as many couples as wish to participate (form several lines if necessary as space dictates); dancers face the head of hall, the ladies on the gentlemen's right hands. First couple, third couple, fifth couple, etc., down the set, salute and change places, then face down the set towards the couple below. In this manner small sub-sets of two couples each have been created within the long line.

The odd-numbered couples have their backs to the Head of the Hall and are facing down the set; they are the ACTIVE couples. The ACTIVE couples will progress down the set dancing with new inactive couples until the end of the line is reached and there are no more inactive couples with whom to dance. The even-numbered couples have their chests to the Head of the Hall and are facing up the set; they are the INACTIVE couples.

The Dance: Star right, star left (16 counts)
 Right-hand turn opposite, left-hand turn partner (16 counts)
 Active couples down the center, turn as a couple, up and cast off (16 counts)
 Forward and back; forward and active couples left two-hand turn half way (16 counts)

Notes by Robin BC Bancroft, 2009

Inspired by source material from: The Ball-Room Manual of Contra Dances and Social Cotillons (Belfast, ME 1863)

Notes

Down the center and cast off

Active couple face down the hall and walk down the hall in the center of the set (if necessary Inactives part slightly to give the actives more space). Turn together and walk up the hall in the center of the set, traveling no farther than the inactive couple. All four dancers are now in a line facing the head of the hall.

Actives grasp inside hands with the inactive dancer next to them (Active gentleman's left hand to Inactive man's right hand; Active lady's right hand to Inactive lady's left hand) and Active couples cast out of the set, below the Inactive couple. At the finish of this figure 1] partners are looking across the set at each other, 2] the ladies are on one side of the set, the gentlemen on the other side of the set.

Repeat, repeat, ...