

Square Dance

- Square dancing began its transition from the traditional, visiting couple type of dancing into all-four-couple-working kind of dancing in the 1950's.
- Square Dance is the folk dance of the United States, where you move to many different dance calls.
- Unique to square dance is that it has a “caller” to tell you what to do next.
- The ladies are always on the **right side** of the gentlemen.
- There are 8 dancers in a square.
- Couple 1 has their back to the music and then going to their right is couple #2, couple #3, couple #4.
- Head couples are 1 and 3.
- Side couples are 2 and 4.
- The gentlemen’s right hand lady is the lady on his right **past** his partner.
- Whenever your group gets messed up you always square up your set and try to pick up the call as soon as possible.

TERMS:

Do Si Do: Partners, or those designated by the Caller, face each other and walk around each other passing right and then left shoulders back to own position.

Promenade: Partners, or those designated by Caller, cross hands in skating position and walk counter-clockwise to position. Right arm should be over left.

Allemande Left: Face your corner and take left hands. Walk around each other to own position. May also be done with your partner.

Star: Two couples extend the correct hand into the center of the set holding onto the person’s wrist that is in front of them, walk around one full turn and return to home position.

Ladies Chain: Two or four Ladies walk to the center and take right hands. Pass by, dropping hands, and give left hands to that opposite gentlemen. Gents take the lady’s left hand and place their right hand on the ladies right hand, which is on her back, and turns her counter-clockwise to face the other couple.

Grand Right and Left: Partners face each other and join right hands. They then walk by each other, drop hands and take the left hand of the next person. This alternates hand-over-hand until the dancers meet their original partners.

Backtrack: The person steps to the outside of the square, turns to the right and walks in the opposite direction. Others continue walking in the same direction they were walking.