

The most recent version of my cribs is always published on the SCDDDB database my.strathspey.org/dd/. Go to the dance, and open the crib.

About once a year, I circulate this WORD file with the current version of all my cribs to anyone interested. If you need another file format, please ask.

Each new version contains many corrections and improvements. To avoid perpetuating errors ***Please delete all copies of older versions of this file, and please do not pass on this file to anyone else*** (except for individual cribs). Instead ask me to send that person the most recent version and all future updates.

I need your help to find errors and improve the cribs (see below).

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These cribs are intended for “fair use”. Any crib will be immediately removed on request of the copyright holder.

CRIB FORMAT

The dances are mostly in alphabetical order, ignoring “The”, “A”, “An”, “La”, and such. Especially with Saint / St. / St there may be some differences between the name of the dance in the database and in these cribs.

TITLE LINE

The title line gives the **full name of the dance**, the **set size** and **type of the dance**, the **deviser** and the **source publication** if known (often abbreviated). The SCDDDB database has more complete data.

Please use these cribs as you wish, but I feel strongly that for a dance, just as for all works of art, it is disrespectful to omit the name of the deviser, even on a crib sheet.

CODE LINE

The title line is preceded by a code line with the following information.

1. Reliability

The cribs aim to be “Correct”, “Complete”, “Clear” and “Concise”, so that the dance is fully described by the crib alone. I regularly check and improve cribs, using all available information as used by teachers (original description, RSCDS Manual, TACnotes, discussions on the “Strathspey List”, etc). The codes are:

< Crib still needs to be checked in full detail.

@ Crib checked.

I will be very grateful to anyone who checks any “<” crib and either submits a correction or informs me that that crib is correct, complete and clear. If you find any disagreement with the “minicribs”, please inform both the “Minicrib team” and myself. I am deeply indebted to all who have contributed improvements, in particular to the late Derek Haynes who contributed corrections for many years.

2. Changes introduced in this version

N New crib added

K An error has been corrected

I Improved wording or minor corrections.

3. Dance Intensity (DI)

The code DI (Dance Intensity) is the percentage of the time any couple actually dances in “once through”, not counting “stepping up/dn/in”..Dances differ greatly in DI, from 25% (Lassies of Dunse & Burn’s Hornpipe) to 100% (everyone dancing all the time). The DI gives a good indication on how tiring or boring the dance is.

In a 3C/4L dance, (one couple always standing out) DI can never exceed 75%. 2C dances are assumed to be in a 4C set, with only 1c+2c starting (11 times in all); this maximizes DI at $11/16 = 69\%$.

4. Bar Count. The numbers between the brackets give the number of bars danced by each couple, per phrase of the dance; they are used to calculate the DI.

MAKING CRIB SHEETS FOR DANCE EVENTS

The easiest way is to use the built-in features of the SCDDDB database; go to my.strathspey.org/dd/

To make crib/cue sheets for dance events from this file, using MS Word:

- Open your new Crib Sheet document.
- Open this file in “Normal View” (“Print Layout View” shows only one dance per page). Find each crib in this file, select the text and paste it to the Crib Sheet (TIP: create a keyboard shortcut that runs a macro “Copy selected text/ Switch to document 2/ Paste / Switch back/move cursor one step forward”). Continue to end of the event’s programme.
- Format your crib sheet to print neatly. The cribs are made to fit on A4 paper, landscape format, margins 1 cm all round (top, bottom, left, right), and two equal columns, spacing 1,1 cm. For each header line you need to adjust the formatting to fit the line. Avoid breaking a dance across the column or page. A Ball of 19 dances usually fits on the 2 sides of the A4 sheet in Times Roman 12 point font (very legible). Space can be adjusted by changing the “Space Before” value in the Word Paragraph feature. Sometimes one must convert to 11 point.
- *WARNING: some software does not show the “|” line used to mark the 2-bar boundaries. These are important, without them the cribs become difficult to read.*

Those who prefer other abbreviations or the full wordings can put these in by using the automatic “search and replace” function of their word processor. If you prefer to have the dance descriptions in a continuous block of text (to save space), good symbols to separate the 8-bar phrases are the black lozenge ◆ or square ■.

ABBREVIATIONS

CODES CHANGED from Version N onwards, to improve legibility:

The couples in a dance are now identified by 1c, 2c, etc, instead of 1C, 2C, etc.

The capital “C” is retained for indicating set size or number of couples.

Shoulders are now indicated by Rsh and Lsh.

Hello and Goodbye setting has been simplified to “SetH&G”.

Abbreviations may change between versions. I welcome suggestions for improving the system of abbreviations.

Some abbreviations that are not immediately evident have been **highlighted in bold** below.

In the code line: see above.

In the title line

Dance name in full

2C	2-couple dance. Usually danced in a 4C set, danced 8 times through
3C/3L	3C dance in a 3C longwise set (progression 2,3,1 or 3,1,2)
3C/Tri	3C Triangular set

3C/4L	3 couple dance in a 4 couple longwise set, danced 8 times through.
4C 5C	4C, 5C, ... dance in a set of the same size (longwise set unless stated otherwise), danced the same number of times through.
4Csq, 5Csq, 6Csq	Square sets; there can be one or two extra couples in the middle
RR	Round the Room
One Circle RR	All dancers in one circle RR facing in, M on the L of P
Two circles RR	Face P in concentric circles RR, usually W inside, M outside
2Trios/RR	Trio facing Trio RR
2TriosWMW/RR	Trio WMW facing Trio RR
1C/RR	Single couples all facing same way RR
2C/RR	Couple facing couple RR
3C/RR	Three couples interacting in the formations, mixing RR
R	Reel
J	Jig
S	Strathspey
M	Medley
24, 32, 40 (etc)	Number of bars; the number of repeats = number of couples, except 8 for 3C/4L;
96b, 400b, (etc)	Number of bars, Danced once through only
Deviser's name	First names may be reduced to initials or dropped to save space
Publication name / date	Often abbreviated to save space
#	Number of the dance in the publication
p	Page number in the publication
[-]	Information not available in the original source
[?]	Information not collected from source or perhaps missing; needs to be searched
<i>In the descriptions:</i>	
½	Half (If your PC displays this as an incomprehensible symbol, do a global “search and replace” to put in the fraction 1/2 or the word “half”).
1-- (etc)	Bar numbering. The -- with no number following indicates 8 bar phrase .
	separates 2-bar sections (but older cribs may still use a “,”)
;	separates 4-bar sections
::	marks an 8-bar section if the phrase exceeds 8 bars
[bar n] or [n]	number of the bar (instant of time)
{n bars} or {n}	duration = that number of bars
while{n}	indicates “meanwhile” figures. To eliminate ambiguity, {n} gives the numbers of bars, or the “meanwhile” parts may be enclosed between []
[]	encloses “meanwhile” parts
()	Adds detail, or repeats the description in different words for clarification
1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c,	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th , 5th .. couples

1M, 2W	1st man, 2nd lady/woman, ... (As the RSCDS uses Woman, we use W; the letter L always means Left).
1M(1W) <i>instruction</i> down(up)	shorthand for 1M <i>instruction</i> down while 1W <i>instruction</i> up (used for “meanwhile” figures)
1pl, 2pl, ...	1st, 2nd, ... place.
1plx, 2plx,	1st, 2nd, ... place on opposite side
1cnr, 2cnr,	1st, 2nd, corner. Normally refers to “position”; “person” or “position” is added when needed.
3cnr, 4cnr	Partner’s 1st, 2nd corner
All	All those dancing, NOT all those in the set
P	Partner
R	Right
L	Left (never “Lady”)
Rsh, Lsh	right and left shoulders
clw, cclw	clockwise, counterclockwise = anticlockwise
LH, RH, NH, BH	Left, Right, Nearer and Both Hands
Easy hand, EH	the evidently most convenient hand
LHJ, RHJ, NHJ, BHJ	Left, Right, Nearer and Both Hands Joined
lead vs dance	Strictly, “lead” means RHJ, “dance” NHJ. Older RSCDS texts use “lead” for both; the correct formation is sometimes in doubt. Some cribs still have this ambiguity.
(2c up)/(2c down)	2c step up / 2c step down
(2,3,4,1) or (to 2,3,4,1) (etc)	indicates the order of the couples in the set at that point, on the sidelines
(2x,3x,4,1)	x indicates couples on opposite sides
(2x,3x,4,1)	italics indicates couples in these positions but not on the sidelines
BtoB	Back to Back as a position
dance BtoB	Dance Back to Back (the figure)
BiL	Balance in Line (i.e. setting in line; dancers facing alternate ways)
Circlen (<i>n</i> =3,4,6,8,etc)	<i>n</i> hands round ; always starts to the left unless specified otherwise
A&R	Advance and Retire
Turn CPCP	Turn 1st corner RH, Partner LH, 2nd corner RH, Partner LH
RHA, LHA	Right hands across, Left hands across.
R&L	Rights and Lefts.
Diagonal R&L	(1C change places RH with 1cnr positions, LH on sides, RH with 4cnr positions, LH on sides)
S&Link	Set and Link for two
S&Link3	Set and Link for three
H.Schottische	Highland Schottische (setting step, poussette)
DTr	Double Triangles
DDTr	Double Double Triangles (in a 5C set, above and below)
SetH&G	Set to Corners and Partner
Set&Rotate	Set and Rotate
Reel3 (Reel4)	Reel of three (of four) (only one reel)
Reels3 (Reels4)	Reels of three (of four) (two or more reels at the same time) (<i>not yet put into all the cribs</i>)

Reel3 {6}	6-bar reel of 3 (only one reel)
Reels3 {6}	6-bar reels of 3 (two or more reels at the same time) <i>(not yet put into all the cribs)</i>
Parallel (reels)	Identical reels, just displaced laterally.
Mirror (reels)	Reels in mirror symmetry, either across or up/dn
Opposing (reels)	Centro-symmetric; Partners dance symmetrically w.r.t. a point in the centre of the set.
Fig8	Figure of eight
DblFig8	Double figure of 8
G-Chain	Grand Chain
L-Chain	Ladies' Chain
M-Chain	Men's Chain
Cnr-Chain	Corner Chain
Teapots	4-bar figure: 1M&1W, each with two others, dance Hands Across (R, L or Mirror, with end Cpls or on the sides)
PdB	Pas de Basque
promhold	promenade hold
1diag, 2diag	1st diagonal i.e. between 1st cnrs; similarly 2diag = 2nd diagonal i.e. between 2nd cnrs
<i>(in brackets in italics)</i>	added for clarification only

(Comments on the crib or the dance are added when needed as a final line in italics).

Please ignore (and tell me about) any unexplained comments; those should have been removed.

Most cribs are arranged in 8-bar phrases. That makes it much easier to “see” and remember each 8-bar phrase as a “chunk” of information. The signs | ; | subdivide the phrase, where necessary, into 2-bar bits.

In 8-bar phrases, the second bar number is omitted. That improves legibility:

- You see at a glance that the length is 8 bars
- Phrases of other length stand out clearly.

Traditionally both beginning and end bar numbers are printed, then you must read both numbers and subtract to know the phrase length.

The sign is used ‘+’ for those dancing a figure together, and ‘&’ or ‘and’ when two individuals / groups / pairs / dance the same figure simultaneously (eg: 1c+2c & 3c+4c RHA).

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