

## *The Silly Sisters*

A reel for three couples in a straight four-couple set

BARS	DESCRIPTION
1–2	1st couple set.
3–8	1st couple lead down crossing below 3rd couple (3 bars) and cast up two places to original place on opposite sides (3 bars). Meanwhile, 2nd couple set, lead down between 3rd couple and cast up one place to original place on own sides (2nd couple do not cross).
9–16	1st and 2nd couples dance the Chain Progression as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9–10 1st couple and 2nd couple turn partners with the right hand three quarters of a turn to finish in a line of four in the middle of the set.</li><li>11–14 1st and 2nd women turn with the left hand one and a half times to change places. Meanwhile, 1st and 2nd men chase clockwise half way round to meet their partners in changed places.</li><li>15–16 2nd couple (at the top) turn with the right hand three quarters of a turn to finish in top place on own sides. Meanwhile, 1st couple (in second place) turn with the right hand nearly one and a half times to finish facing second corners.</li></ul>
17–20	1st couple dance a half reel of four with second corners. At the end, 1st couple turn with the left hand very quickly to finish facing first corners.
21–24	1st couple dance a half reel of four with first corners. 1st man finishes between 2nd couple (in 3rd place) facing up, 1st woman between 3rd couple (in 2nd place) facing down.
25–28	Joining hands in lines of three, 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set. Then 2nd and 3rd men, and 2nd and 3rd women, change places giving right hands while 1st couple turn with the right hand three quarters to finish in second place on opposite sides.
29–32	Joining hands in lines of three, 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples set and cross over giving right hands to own sides.
	Repeat, having passed a couple.

*For Kay and Sören Hinrichs. I hope they won't take the title of the dance too personally! The title itself was inspired by the eponymous Maddy Prior & June Tabor album of folk music.*

*Note:* The "sisters" in this dance are 1st and 2nd women, who get to do the long turn in the chain progression together.