

Mechanics of Choreography by Bill Harrison

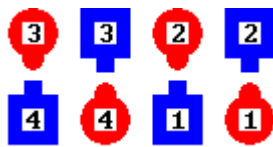
Four elements describe the state or set up of the square: Formation, Arrangement, Sequence State, and Relationship commonly known as **F.A.S.R.**

Formation – the geometric shape of the set, combined with the facing direction of the dancers.

Parallel Right Hand Waves



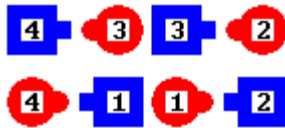
Facing Lines



3x1 Lines



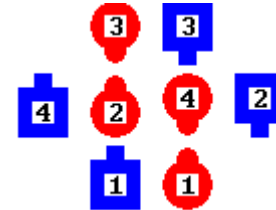
Eight Chain Thru



Parallel Right Hand Two Faced Lines



¼ Line



Example: Eight Chain Thru, Centers In =Ends In - Inverted Lines

Parallel Right Hand Wave, Centers Walk and Dodge = 3 and 1 Lines

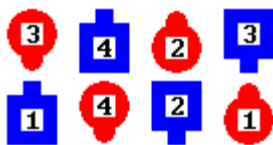
Squared Set, Heads Right and Left Thru, Turn ¼ More = ¼ Line

Zero Lines, Touch ¼ =Right Hand Columns

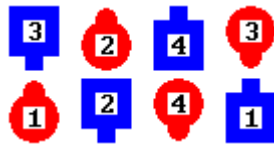
Arrangement – the six different Boy-Girl placements possible in any symmetric formations.

Example Inverted Lines In

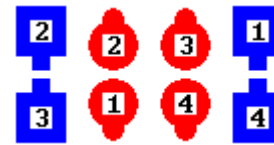
0= Normal Couples



½ = Half Sashayed Couples

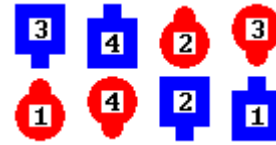
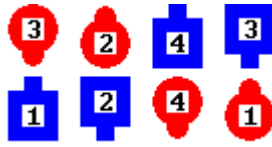
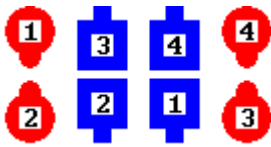


1= Boys Outside/Girls Inside



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2 = Girls Outside/Boys Inside 3=Normal Couples Outside 4=Half Sashayed Couples Outside

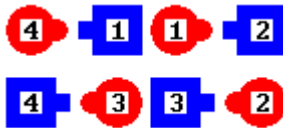
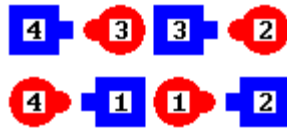


Let's Look at Eight Chain Thru

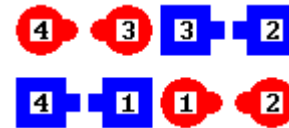
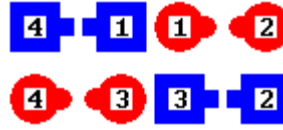
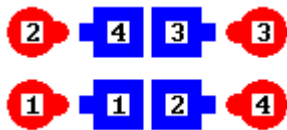
0=Normal Couples

1/2= Half Sashayed Couples

1 = Boys Outside/Girls Inside

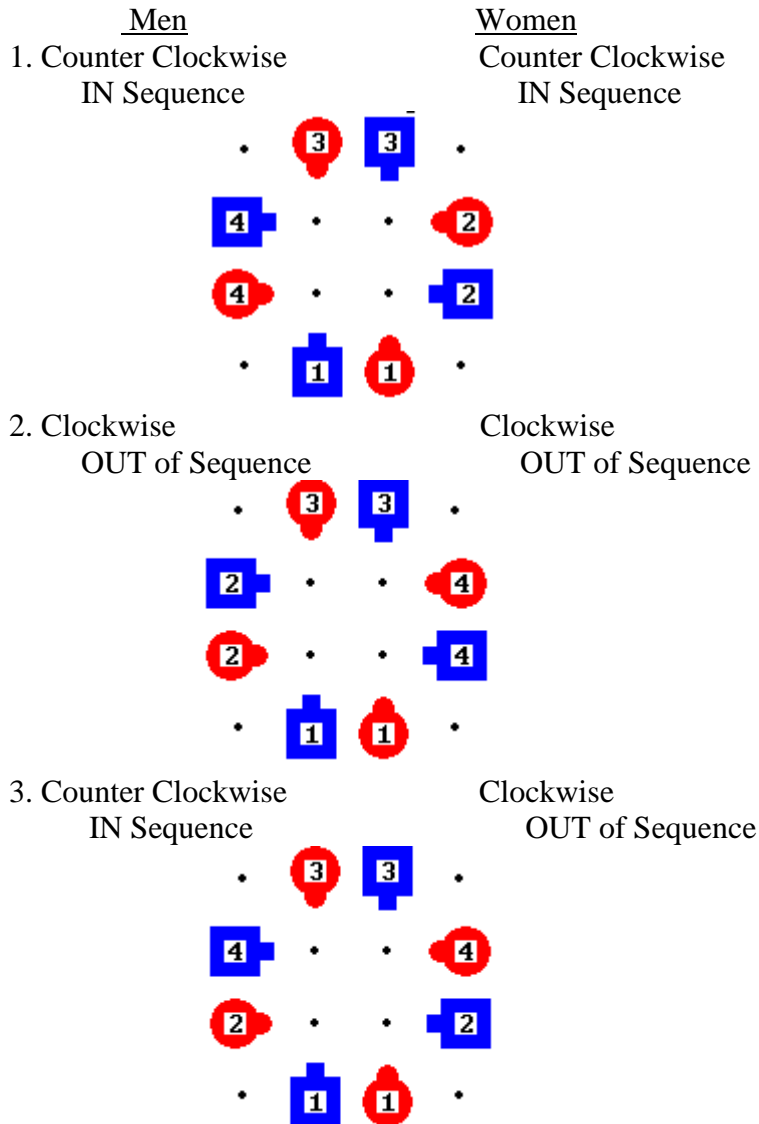


2 = Girls Outside/Boys Inside 3 = Normal Couples Outside 4 = Half Sashayed Couples Outside



Sequence State – the choreographic entity that includes both the men and women in numerical order that exist in a particular Formation and Arrangement at a given time. (In or Out of sequence does it take 2 of the girls longer to get home if so they are out of sequence) (if they equally take the same time to promenade to a home spot they are in sequence)

There are only FOUR sequence states in symmetrical choreography. Sequence is critical for resolution. Look at this from a Squared Set or Circle.



In Conclusion:

- When writing choreography focus is on Formation and Arrangement.
- Resolution relies on Sequence and Relationship. Are we in order and whom are we with.
- Moving dancers from one known FASR to another is creating modules
- Moving dancers to the same footprint is creating a geographical zero depending where it is started.
- It is important to know Formation and Arrangement. Understanding where calls begin and end will lead you to know where and what the next formation will be.
- Sequence and Relationship is used for sight calling in order to resolve.