

The Road to Proitze

A 32-bar reel for four couples in a longwise set.

MDL 8
R32
4.4L
Advanced

MUSIC

DESCRIPTION

Bars

- 1–4 1st couple set and, giving right hands, cross down into second place on opposite sides. 2nd couple step up on bars 3–4.
- 5–8 4th couple set and, giving left hands, cross up into third place on opposite sides. 3rd couple step down on bars 7–8. Meanwhile, 1st couple set and turn with the right hand once round to finish on opposite sides facing out.
- 9–12 2nd couple set and, giving right hands, cross down into second place on opposite sides. Meanwhile, 1st couple set and cast up into first place and 4th couple set and turn right once round to finish on opposite sides facing out. (When setting, 2nd, 1st and 4th couples join hands on the sides to ‘balance in line’.)
- 13–16 3th couple set and, giving left hands, cross up into third place on opposite sides. Meanwhile, 4th couple set and cast off into fourth place and 2nd couple set and turn right once round to finish on opposite sides facing *in*. (When setting, 2nd, 4th and 3rd couples join hands on the sides to ‘balance in line’.) [All are now in original order on opposite sides.]
- 17–20 1st and 2nd couples, and 3rd and 4th couples, set and link. 1st woman, 2nd man, 3rd woman and 4th man finish facing out.
- 21–24 All dance half reels of four on the sides to finish in the order 3, 4, 1, 2, facing in.
- 25–28 2nd couple set and, giving right hands, cross over to finish facing out.
- 29–32 2nd couple go on to cast up three places to first place while 3rd, 4th and 1st couples join hands on the sides, set and, giving left hands, cross down one place to finish on own sides in the order 2, 3, 4, 1.
Repeat with a new top couple.

Devised by Anselm Lingnau, Frankfurt, Germany, September 1998

For Kerstin Kuhn of the Proitzer Mühle (Mill of Proitze), who enjoys challenging dances in general and fugues in particular.

Proitze (the first syllable is stressed and rhymes with “joy”) is a small village in a fairly out-of-the-way area in Germany (by our standards, anyway), and when we first came to visit the Mühle in March, 1996, finding the place was quite a challenge! In the meantime, we have traveled the “Road to Proitze” a number of times and going there becomes easier all the time—but leaving still remains difficult.

Music: “Qumdaró” (see *Kerr’s Second Collection of Merry Melodies for the Violin*, p. 40)