

The Kessel Run

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

| BARS | DESCRIPTION |
|-------|---|
| 1–4 | 1st couple, giving right hands, turn once round. |
| 5–8 | 1st couple cast off, then set advancing and pull right shoulders back to finish back to back in the middle of the set facing their own sides. (2nd couple move up on bars 5–6.) |
| 9–16 | 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples dance double triangles. 1st couple finish as at the end of bar 8. |
| 17–20 | 1st couple dance out the sides and loop round their third corner's place by the right shoulder, then dance towards their partner from the ends of the set, pulling right shoulders back at the last possible moment to face the way they came. Meanwhile , 2nd and 3rd couples advance and retire diagonally. |
| 21–24 | 1st couple dance out the ends of the set and loop round their second corner's place by the right shoulder, then dance through second place on opposite side and towards their partner, again pulling right shoulders back at the last possible moment to finish facing first corners. Meanwhile , 2nd and 3rd couples advance and retire diagonally. |
| 25–32 | 1st couple set to corners and partner. On bars 31–32, 1st couple clap and dance a petronella turn to finish in second place on own sides. |

Repeat, having passed a couple.

This dance was written for the FSCDC e. V./Central Germany Branch teachers' workshop on teaching formations on 17 February, 2024.

The Kessel Run is what Han Solo famously managed "in 12 parsecs" in *Star Wars*. This dance owes a debt of gratitude to Ed Abdill's *Starlight*, published in RSCDS Book 44, and it lets you do something in space that usually takes a lot longer, with lots of panache, tight turns, and narrow escapes. The dance's main objective is to combine double triangles and hello-goodbye setting, which do not frequently occur in the same dance.

Devised by Anselm Lingnau, Frankfurt Scottish Country Dance Club e. V., February 2024.



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