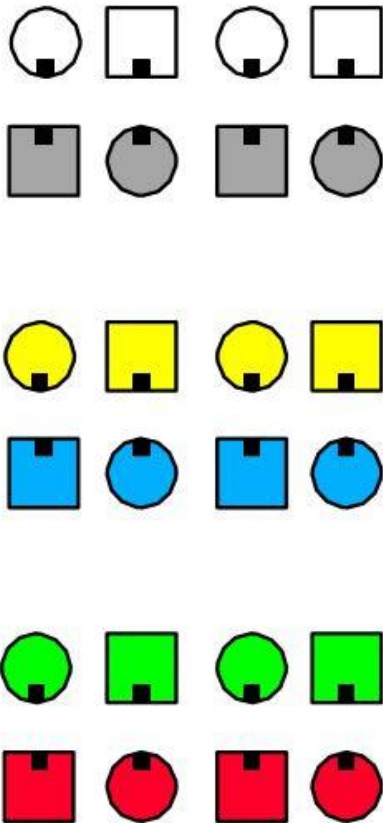


Progressive Squares Facing Lines of 4 by Calvin Campbell

At any square dance, usually some dance time is spent dancing in Facing-Lines-of-Four. As with most square dancing, most of the actions still are danced as facing couples. Only the Formation has changed.

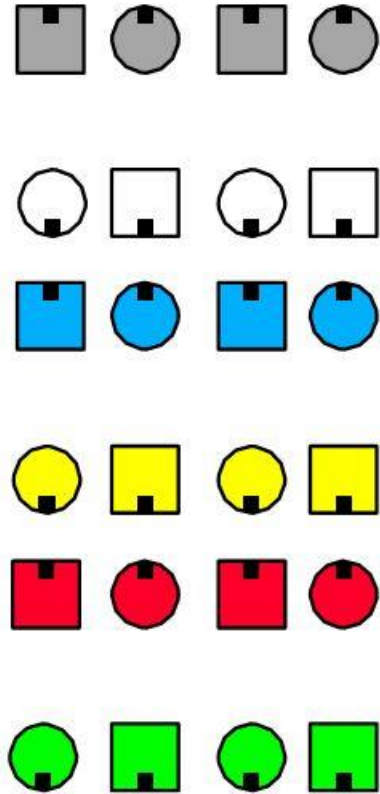
The graphic below shows the Progressive Squares Formation. It is composed of sets of Facing-Lines-of-Four.



The big Formation is usually created by having the Head-couples in each square **Lead Right and Circle Left 3/4**. This keeps each couple paired with their original partner. Most True Geographic Zero Partner-Line choreography can be used.

In the graphic, there are three sets of Facing-Lines-of-Four. There can be more sets depending on the size of the hall. There can be multiple columns at bigger dances.

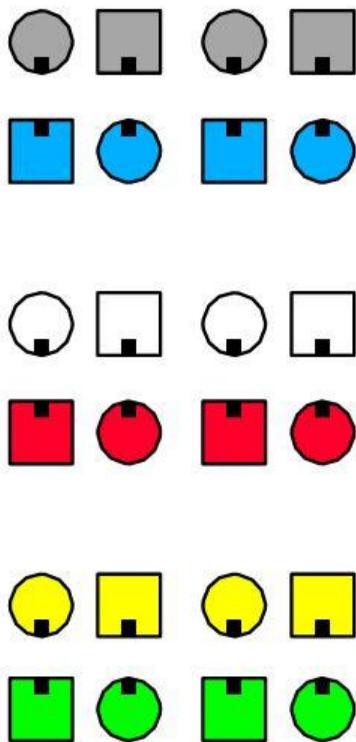
If the caller has each line, as a unit, **Pass Thru** and walk forward to the next line, the Formation shown in the graphic below is the result. The dancers in the two out-facing lines on the ends of the Formation



(Green & Gray) automatically **California Twirl** and wait their turn to get back into the action. If the dancers understand the rules, this Formation will work with 3 or more lines-of-four.

In this type of dancing, the goal at the point of progression, is to have the same four dancers progress together. For example, the makeup of the red line of dancers will remain the same two couples. The makeup of the green line will remain the same and so on. This makes keeping track of the dancers easier for the caller. At the end of the patter portion of the tip, the caller can return everyone to the starting point in the big Formation or just stop wherever the caller chooses.

In a second option, each line-of-four will **Pass Thru Twice**. This is shown in the graphic below. The graphic shows an even number of lines. The same option also works with an odd number of lines-of-four.



In International Folk Dancing, the big Formation is called a Mescolanza Formation. In Modern Western Square Dancing, I have only heard it called Progressive Squares. When I have used the Mescolanza Formation, I do not start in squares. I tell the dancers the name of the Formation and I have the dancers setup in facing-lines-of-four.

The choreography, I use, is almost always from the "Basic List." I find that dancers handle the constant changing of people they are working with to be enough variety to keep them happy. I keep the length of the dance routines short and **Pass Thru** to the next line frequently.

Occasionally, I have the couples in each line **1/2 Sashay** as couples. The couple on the right **Sashays** in front of the left couple.

Occasionally, I have the facing-lines-of-four **Star Thru** and do some Eight-Chain-Thru Zero Modules. All the Zero Modules, I use, are short because the fun part, for the dancers, is dancing with more different dancers.

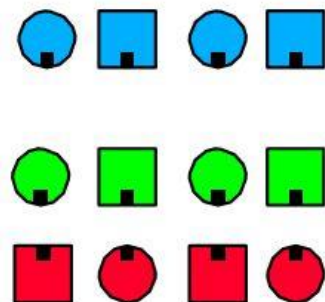
The music I use, is always strongly "phrased" music. I feel Progressive Squares are a good place to let the dancers turn off their brains and enjoy the music.

For the second half of the tip, I walk the floor through a 64-step dance routine. Then I put on a singing call and prompt the action.

A word to the sight-callers. The key couples are in the same line. Call isolated sight routines and follow just one key line across the hall and back to their starting spot. The dancers will be impressed.

In the present square dance market, some events will have only a few couples attend the dance. Sometimes the attendance may be only be six Couples. This Formation is an option for including more dancers than the normal four couple Square Formation.

The starting setup is shown below. After the first **Pass Thru**, the red line will be facing the blue line. The green line will then **California Twirl** and wait out a turn. The next **Pass Thru** will have the green and blue lines dancing and so on.



I have used this Formation at many classes. I also use couple-facing-couple dances. They are particularly good ways for ensuring all class members get to dance.