

## Some notes on Hinton shooting:

1. Pattern of the dance is worth bearing in mind, just in case #1 forgets:
  - Once to yourself is a jump clash. Stepping is single-step throughout. 3 beats to the bar. 4 bars to each 'part'
  - Foot up and down, (first Hinton common figure)
  - Corners, hey (the distinctive figure of this dance)
  - Into line
  - Corners, hey
  - Back to back
  - Corners, hey
  - Show out and all up
2. But of course, the detail is all important...
  - Above all, the style of dance is snappy, soldierly.
    - a. So, single step is springy, with foot snapping out to shake bells
    - b. Stick normally held two-thirds of the way down, by side of your leg not far off 90 degrees, tip down slightly in front of you, butt slightly behind you
    - c. When doing nothing in corners, stand straight, eyes front,
  - Stick twirling: In general it's quite a large swingy movement in a figure of eight - let the weight of the stick swing it - not primarily a movement from the wrist - mostly shoulder / elbow.
    - a. 'twirl in' : movement starts with tip going in and down, ends with the stick being brought **sharply** down into normal position. In summary: twirl in, out, in, out, in and down. Takes 4 bars.
    - b. 'twirl out': movement starts with tip going out and down, ends with clash across w partner, then down to normal position. In summary: twirl out, in, out, in, out and clash. Takes 4 bars.
  - **The Distinctive Figure:** corners and hey:
    - a. **the moment corners start middles must take 3 short steps back. Suggest a good 2ft.** (fits with 1st corner's butt/tip/shoot). If you don't you may get hit and you will certainly inhibit the first couple from doing their stick swinging properly. You'll also give yourself proper room to swing.
    - b. First 2 corners turn to face opposite at the last moment. Then on your spot: butt, tip to floor, shoot across. Then move in, butt, tip, low clash with partner, swinging right to left. Then twirl and clash high 'with great spirit' according to the Black Book. To twirl and get the high clash in at the right time, you should, after the low clash, reverse the direction of the stick (so twirl starts with the stick now going left wards out and up in the figure of eight). Then back out to place, stand to attention!
    - c. The 'shoot across' is a proper shot, 'gun' to shoulder, right foot stamp.
    - d. next corner start after previous has clashed. Third corner must be ready to go straight into the hey after their turn
    - e. Hey in two parts with twirl in half way, twirl out and clash at end. Hey is normal Hinton
      - i. crucial that middles back out swiftly
      - ii. second couple dance on spot for one bar **then** move
      - iii. keep stick at side when not twirling it
      - iv. keep facing your partner, try not to turn your body, you have to move sideways, crabwise. Easiest way to do this sidestep movement is to start with leading foot (the one in the direction you're about to travel), then bringing trailing foot behind.
      - v. As hey ends be ready for the next common figure
    - f. Each corner takes 4 bars (2 for the preliminaries, two for the twirl and clash). Each half hey takes 4 bars, two to move, two to twirl
  - **Common figures** (usual Hinton stuff). Hold stick by side if not twirling. Start dance with OY (jump clash - easy to get timing of this wrong!)
    - a. **Foot up and down** 4 bars each part. Turn to face in and clash half way and end, at the last minute - clash is last note of the 4 bars.
    - b. **Into line** (same idea as in Getting Upstairs, but held for a bit longer)

- i. crucial that it really is one line, down centre of set. Aim to get there on the first note. Looking up and down imperative as you move into shoulder to shoulder - adjustment later looks sloppy.
  - ii. At the end of 4 bars, change. Change is snappy
  - iii. In line for another 2 bars, final 2 bar back out, dance on spot and clash at end. No twirling at any stage.
- c. **Back to back.** 4 bars each part. Twirl in halfway, twirl out at end. Movement across is a surge, but v controlled - not further than set width.
- d. **Show out** takes 4 bars and 4 bars
  - i. First two notes of first bar dance on the spot. On 3rd, surge across striking partner's stick high en route, bringing stick back down.
  - ii. Watch lines going across, as far as top couple take you in the next bar (but leave 2 bars for twirl)
  - iii. Stay facing out and twirl in. As stick comes down at end of twirl, turn about your right shoulder to face back across.
  - iv. Come back on 1 bar into line (one line please)
  - v. Dance in line 1 bar.
  - vi. Then 1 bar to come out into set. Odds turn easy way, evens have to turn long way, about right shoulder.
  - vii. Final bar's 3 notes are butts, tips, clash across.

**Walk round and off!**