

# Cockle Shells

Formation: Longways – Duple Minor. (Originally a Triple Minor)

Original Source: *The Dancing Master*. 11<sup>th</sup> ed (1701)

Source: *Retreads 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Dances*. No. 8. Charles Bolton, ed.\* ©

CD: Bare Necessities. *By Choice*. Volume 8.

**The Dance: AA BB 2/2**

- A1 1st Man Right-hand turn 2nd Woman & Left-hand turn his Partner.  
A2 2nd Man Left-hand turn 1st Woman & Right-hand turn his Partner.
- B1 1st corners cross; 2nd corners cross, Circle Left halfway & 1st couple Cast Off & face down & 2nd lead into . . .  
B2 Double Figure 8. (1st couple crossing down through new second couple below who move straight up the outside to begin, all ending in progressed places.)

NOTE>>Alternate Version from “Retreads No. 1”:

- B2 1st couple Half Figure 8 down through new second couple & two hand turn once and half. (skipping is a possibility)

## Original Text

*The 1. man turns the 2.wo,with his right-hand, and his Partner with his left \_  
The 2.cu. does the same-  
The 1. man change places with the 2.wo. and the 2. man with the 1.wo. then hand half  
round cast off – Then the Figure of eight through the 3.cu. and turn your Partner.*

Notes: 1. The original was a triple-minor longways set.

2. In this revised version I have omitted the final two-hand turn.

3. The tune was used (without repeats) by Cecil Sharp in *The Country Dance Book* for the dance *The Temple Change*.

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