

The Linton Whipman

32-bar reel for 2 couples

1-8 1C & 2C set and rotate.

9-16 2C & 1C RH across and LH back.

17-24 1C cross up between 2C giving LH, cast down to 2nd place, cross RH and cast back up to 1st place, finishing in the middle. 2C step down and in on bars 7-8 to finish in the middle.

25-32 1C & 2C poussette.

Suggested tune: "The High Road to Linton"

Devised by Lara Friedman~Shedlov, with help from Helen Bruce, Dan Friedman~Shedlov, and Janet and Stuart McKernan. Debuted on 5 July 2015 on the lower green of the village of West Linton, Scotland (see <https://youtu.be/GzQ5HUfricM>). The dance represents the traditions of the annual Whipman Play, with the Whipman and his lass riding out, along with the left and right hand supporters.

It is also a play on the traditional dance, "The Linton Ploughman."

Whipman is the old Scots word for a carter or carrier, and the story of the Linton play began in 1803 when the Whipman Benevolent Society, providing mutual aid to its members, held their annual meeting. The Whipman Play is an annual summer festival held in the village of West Linton, and is one of the Scottish Borders' oldest festivals. A local man is elected to the office of "Whipman" and he chooses a young lady to be his "Lass". The celebrations begin with the Installation of the Whipman and Lass, followed by a celebratory ceilidh. The following day, the Ride Out (of around 80 to 100 horses) introduces the Whipman to the area, and a full week of events culminates in the annual sports day, held on the village green.

*When Summer smiles in sweet delight,
And field are starred with daisies white,
Upon a certain gladsome night,
Rejoicings start in Linton.*