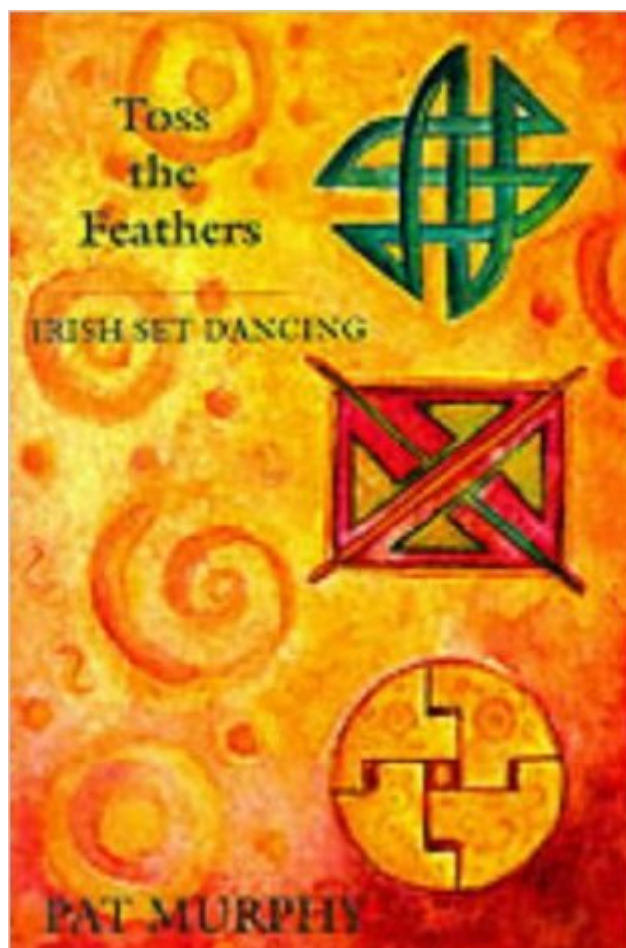


The book was found

Toss The Feathers: Irish Set Dancing



Synopsis

This is the most comprehensive paperback ever published on set dancing. It contains sixty-one complete set dances, including all those danced commonly in class, summer schools at feiseanna. These are laid out in conventional set terminology and can be easily followed by teachers, pupils and anyone who has an acquaintance with the art of set dancing. The book is also unique in containing the first concise history of the development of set dancing in Ireland from its eighteenth century European origins.

Book Information

Paperback: 222 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Toss the Feathers is the definitive book on Irish set dancing. I bought a copy in Galway City, and it has saved me innumerable times. I carry it with me to all classes and ceilis; it's well-worn and well-loved. Besides the most common sets, Pat gives us notes for beautiful and obscure local dances. His introduction also includes an illuminating history of set dancing. Beware: you will not teach yourself to dance from this book if you have no prior knowledge of set dancing. However, it is ideal for supplementing your knowledge from classes. When two set dancers disagree on the "correct" version of a set, one inevitably pulls out a copy of Pat's book, and his judgement is trusted. All of us set dancing addicts are awaiting the upcoming sequel. Buy it now! You'll never regret this useful reference on bad days when you can't even remember how the Ballyvourney Jig Set begins.

Pat Murphy's Toss the Feathers is the most useful guide to set dancing I have come across. During my nine months dancing in Northern Ireland, Toss the Feathers was the book that my

teachers used to check for technicalities, and the book I used to brush up on my steps on my way to ceilis. I heartily recommend this book to people who know about set dancing, and want to check their steps or sets. However, I do not recommend this book to newcomers, because Murphy's language is overly technical. For example, to turn someone under your arm, you have to rotate them in a counterclockwise manner until they reach 360 degrees, etc. :) I'm exaggerating. But this book is a definite must-have for those who love set dancing, especially when they're away from Ireland. Like me. Cheers go to Pat Murphy.

Being new to set dancing, I wanted a book with the major sets, which was important to me. Plus, each was presented in concise, readable form that made it easy to read and follow with YouTube videos of the various sets. I liked the back ground and history section in the beginning, too. Nice to have a perspective of where they came from, how they evolved, etc. A worthwhile purchase whether you are new to set dancing or want a comprehensive reference book

This book is great for anyone who set dances but hasn't yet memorized all of the moves (-most of us?!). Not intended for people who have never set danced before. You need to be familiar with the jargon, such as "round the house", "ladies chain", etc.

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