

# The Contra Card Project

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## 1 Introduction

The **Contra Card** project is designed to aid in the formatting and typesetting of caller cards for traditional square and line dances.

The project comprises a  $\text{\LaTeX}$  package (`contracard.sty`) and a  $\text{\LaTeX}$  class (`contracard.cls`). The package provides the core functionality of Contra Card while the class file acts as a convenience wrapper for making calling cards.

## 1.1 About the source

Contributions are welcome, and the latest development version of the project can always be found at <https://github.com/samwhited/contra-card>.

## 1.2 License

This project may be distributed and/or modified under the conditions of the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  Project Public License, either version 1.3c of this license or (at your opinion) any later version. The latest version of this license is in:

<http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt>

and version 1.3c or later is part of all distributions of  $\text{\LaTeX}$  version 2008/05/04 or later.

# 2 Building and using contracard

**Dependencies** Before building the `contracard` package you should verify that the following dependencies are installed:

```
1 <*contracard-pkg>
2 \RequirePackage{intcalc}
3 \RequirePackage{ifthen}
4 \RequirePackage{tocloft}
5 </contracard-pkg>
```

If you're using the class, you'll want the following additional dependencies:

```
6 <*contracard-cls>
7 \AtEndOfClass{\RequirePackage{geometry}}
8 \AtEndOfClass{\RequirePackage[compact]{titlesec}}
9 \AtEndOfClass{\RequirePackage{contracard}}
10 </contracard-cls>

11 <*contracard-pkg>
```

**Building** Once you have all the required packages, building `contracard` from source can be accomplished in multiple ways. If the `Makefile` is present running `make help` will tell you everything you need to know. To manually extract the files and generate the documentation simply run `pdflatex` against `contracard.dtx`:

```
$ pdflatex --shell-escape contracard.dtx
```

The `--shell-escape` option is only required if you want the output to contain version information. This will also require that you have `git` installed as the version is determined by running

```
$ git describe --tags
```

**Using `contracard`** Building results in two main files, a class and a package. In general, if you want to make a calling card, use the `contracard` class and if you want to print a contra dance in a book or article, use a different class and require the `contracard` package.

### 3 Formatting

These options determine how the dance will look.

<code>\defaultcontraenv</code> <code>\dancetitleenv</code>	By default, all contra moves and the title block are wrapped in the <code>flushleft</code> environment. To change this you can renew the following macros:
	<pre>12 \newcommand*\defaultcontraenv{\flushleft} 13 \newcommand*\dancetitleenv{\flushleft}</pre>
<code>\dancetitleformat</code> <code>\danceauthorformat</code> <code>\danceformformat</code>	To change the formatting of a dance's title, author, or form, redefine the following macros:
	<pre>14 \newcommand*\dancetitleformat{\section*} 15 \newcommand*\danceauthorformat{\subsection*} 16 \newcommand*\danceformformat{\hfill}</pre>
<code>\movedelimiter</code> <code>\partdelimiter</code> <code>\midpartdelimiter</code>	These commands define delimiters that are used between moves, or at the midway point in a part.
	<pre>17 \newcommand*\movedelimiter{\,,} 18 \newcommand*\partdelimiter{\.} 19 \newcommand*\midpartdelimiter{\;;}</pre>
<code>\phraseseparator</code> <code>\phrasevspace</code>	The <code>\phraseseparator</code> macro is inserted between every musical phrase and — by default — inserts <code>phrasevspace</code> amount of white space.
	<pre>20 \newlength{\phrasevspace} 21 \setlength{\phrasevspace}{1em} 22 \newcommand*\phraseseparator{\vspace{\phrasevspace}}</pre>

### 4 The Meat

Next we'll define the meat of the `contracard` package. These are the functions, counters, and environments that actually deal with generating a dance.

## 4.1 Musical counts and phrases

`dancecount` First we'll create some counters that will help us keep track of the counts (or 'steps') in the dance. The `dancecount` is reset at the start of each new dance, `partcount` the `partcount` is reset at the beginning of each part (eg. A1 or B1), and the `phrasecount` `phrasecount` is reset every time the part changes (eg. from A to B). The `dancepart` and `dancephrase` counters contain the number of the part of phrase in the dance (instead of the number of steps).

```
23 \newcounter{dancecount}
24 \newcounter{partcount}
25 \newcounter{phrasecount}
26 \newcounter{dancepart}
27 \newcounter{dancephrase}
```

`dancepartlength` Most contra dances are composed of two 32 count phrases, each with two 16 count parts, however, it's sometimes useful to change these lengths (for swung dances and the like). It's important to fully understand how the move command works before modifying these values. Changing just one or the other can have unexpected consequences.

```
28 \newcounter{dancepartlength}
29 \setcounter{dancepartlength}{16}
30 \newcounter{dancephraselength}
31 \setcounter{dancephraselength}{32}
```

`\resetdancephrase` The phrase will continue to increment (A, B, C) unless the user resets it by calling `\resetdancephrase`. The user can also manually reset the part. If the value of `\resetdancepart` the phrase or part would be the same after resetting, no action is taken.

```
32 \newcommand*{\resetdancephrase}{%
33   \ifthenelse{\value{partcount}=16}{\newline}{}%
34   \@ifstar{\@resetdancephraseStar}{\@resetdancephraseNoStar}%
35 }
36 \newcommand*{\@resetdancephraseStar}{%
37   \setcounter{dancephrase}{1}%
38   \setcounter{phrasecount}{0}%
39   \resetdancepart*
40 }
41 \newcommand*{\@resetdancephraseNoStar}{%
42   \ifthenelse{\value{dancephrase}=1}{\}%
43   \setcounter{dancephrase}{1}%
44   \setcounter{phrasecount}{0}%
45   \resetdancepart
46 }%
47 }
48 \newcommand*{\resetdancepart}{%
49   \@ifstar{\@resetdancepartStar}{\@resetdancepartNoStar}%
50 }
51 \newcommand*{\@resetdancepartStar}{%
52   \setcounter{dancepart}{1}%
53   \setcounter{partcount}{0}%
54 }
```

```

55 \newcommand*{\@resetdancepartNoStar}{%
56   \ifthenelse{\value{dancepart}=1}{\}%
57   \setcounter{dancepart}{1}%
58   \setcounter{partcount}{0}%
59 }%
60 }

```

`\newdancephrase` The user can also manually start a new phrase or part:  
`\newdancepart`

```

61 \newcommand*{\newdancephrase}{%
62   \ifthenelse{\not\value{phrasecount}=0}{\newline}{\}%
63   \addtocounter{dancephrase}{1}%
64   \setcounter{phrasecount}{0}%
65   \resetdancepart*
66 }
67 \newcommand*{\newdancepart}{%
68   \newline
69   \addtocounter{dancepart}{1}%
70   \setcounter{partcount}{0}%
71 }

```

## 4.2 The contra environment

`contra` The contra environment is pretty simple. It resets the various counters, and displays some information about the dance—if it is used inside of the `contracard` class, it also clears the page and moves the dance form into the header.

```

72 \newenvironment{contra}[4][\defaultcontraenv]{%
73   \refstepcounter{dance}
74   \addcontentsline{lod}{dance}{\protect\numberline{\thedance}#2}
75   \setcounter{dancecount}{0}
76   \resetdancepart*
77   \resetdancephrase*
78   \ifdefined\@ccisclass\clearpage\fi%
79   \begin{\dancetitleenv}
80     \ifdefined\@ccisclass%
81       \pagestyle{myheadings}
82       \thispagestyle{myheadings}
83       \markboth{}{\danceformformat{#4}}
84     \else%
85       {\danceformformat{#4}}%
86     \fi%
87     {\dancetitleformat{#2}}%
88     {\danceauthorformat{#3}}%
89   \end{\dancetitleenv}
90   \newcommand*{\@contraenv}{#1}
91   \begin{\@contraenv}
92 }{%
93   \end{\@contraenv}
94 }

```

## 4.3 The `\move` command

`\move` The next thing we need to define is the `\move` command. This command takes in a move to display, and (optionally) the number of counts the move takes. If the count is not specified, 16 is used as the default.

```

95 \newcommand*{\move}[2][16]{%
96   \ifthenelse{\value{phrasecount}=\value{dancephraselength}}{%
97     \newdancephrase%
98   }{%
99     \ifthenelse{\value{partcount}=\value{dancepartlength}}{%
100       \newdancepart%
101     }{%
102     }
103     \ifthenelse{\intcalcMod{\value{dancecount}}{\value{dancepartlength}}=0}{%
104       \Alph{dancephrase}\arabic{dancepart}\partdelimiter\ %
105     }{%
106       \addtocounter{dancecount}{#1}%
107       \addtocounter{phrasecount}{#1}%
108       \addtocounter{partcount}{#1}%
109       #2%
110     \ifthenelse{\value{phrasecount}=\value{dancephraselength}}{%
111       \pagebreak[1]\phraseseparator%
112     }{%
113     \ifthenelse{\value{partcount}=\intcalcDiv{\value{dancepartlength}}{2}}{\midpartdelimiter\nopagebreak\nolineskip[0]}%
114     \ifthenelse{\not\value{partcount}=\value{dancepartlength}}{\movedelimiter\nopagebreak\nolineskip[0]}%
115   }

```

## 5 Lists and Indices

### 5.1 Lists

Just as many classes allow you to build a table of contents, or a list of figures, `contracard` allows you to create a list of dances.

`\listofdances` The list of dances is created by a call to `\listofdance` by default, however, we define an alias: `\listofdances` to prevent confusion.

```

116 \newlistof{dance}{lod}{\lodtitle}
117 \newcommand*{\listofdances}{\listofdance}

```

`\lodtitle` The title of the list of dances will be:

```

118 \newcommand*{\lodtitle}{List of Dances}

```

When printed, the list of dances looks something like this:

# List of Dances

1	Code's Compiling . . . . .	9
2	Untitled Blues № 1 . . . . .	10
3	Untitled Blues № 2 . . . . .	11

```
119 </contracard-pkg>
120 <*contracard-cls>
```

## 6 The **contracard** class

The Contra Card project also provides a class (**contracard.cls**) which acts as a convenience wrapper around the core functionality provided by the package. This is useful for generating calling cards, and saves you the trouble of looking up standard card sizes and figuring out margins and where to put headings and the like.

### 6.1 Options

```

small  The class can be loaded with any of the following options:
medium
large
a7paper
121 \DeclareOption{small}{%
122   \AtBeginDocument{%
123     \titleformat{\section}{\normalsize\bfseries}{\thesection}{1em}{}%
124     \titleformat{\subsection}{\normalsize}{\thesection}{1em}{}%
125   }
126   \PassOptionsToPackage{%
127     margin=0.25in,top=0.75in,paperwidth=5in,paperheight=3in%
128   }{geometry}%
129 }
130 \DeclareOption{medium}{%
131   \AtBeginDocument{\large}
132   \PassOptionsToPackage{%
133     margin=0.5in,top=0.75in,paperwidth=6in,paperheight=4in%
134   }{geometry}%
135 }
136 \DeclareOption{large}{%
137   \AtBeginDocument{\Large}
138   \PassOptionsToPackage{%
139     margin=0.75in,top=1in,paperwidth=8in,paperheight=5in%
140   }{geometry}%
141 }
142 \DeclareOption{a7paper}{%
143   \AtBeginDocument{%
144     \titleformat{\section}{\normalsize\bfseries}{\thesection}{1em}{}%
145     \titleformat{\subsection}{\normalsize}{\thesection}{1em}{}%
```

```

146 }
147 \PassOptionsToPackage{%
148     margin=5mm,top=15mm,paperwidth=105mm,paperheight=74mm%
149 }{geometry}%
150 }
151 \DeclareOption*{%
152     \PassOptionsToClass{\CurrentOption}{article}%
153 }

```

The `small` option creates a 127.0 by 76.2 mm (5 by 3 in) card. The `medium` option creates a 152.4 by 101.6 mm (6 by 4 in) card. The `large` option creates a 203.2 by 27.0 mm (8 by 5 in) card. The `a7paper` option creates a 105 by 74 mm (4.1 by 2.9 in) card. Any unrecognized options are passed to the `article` class.

## 6.2 Environment setup

The `contracard` class does a little extra work to turn off headers, and prevent page numbering:

```

154 \AtBeginDocument{\pagestyle{empty}}
155 \AtBeginDocument{\pagenumbering{gobble}}

```

It also defines a command `\@ccisclass` to let the `contracard` package know that it was called via the class:

```

156 \newcommand*{\@ccisclass}{}
157 \ProcessOptions\relax
158 \</contracard-cls>

```

## 7 Examples

A few examples are contained below. Note that the output is wrapped in a frame for clarity; no attempt has been made to make the frame match the size, margins, etc. that a calling card would have (these examples don't use `contracard.cls`, just the package).

### 7.1 Code's Compiling by Sam Whited

This is a simple dance from the caller's perspective (not so for the dancers!) and doesn't do much to show off Contra Card's features. Each move is 8 counts, and it uses standard phrasing. Teaching it may be more difficult; at first glance it appears not to flow, but by adding a few turns and making sure that dancers know they don't have to stop and face forward before doing the see saw (almost as if it were a mad robin) it will flow smoothly. Overall it's a bit busy, and probably needs revision.

```

\begin{contra}{Code's Compiling}{Sam Whited}{Duple becket}
  \move[8]{Neighbor dosido}
  \move[8]{Partner see saw}

```



```

\move{Shadow swing}
\move[8]{Balance and petronella}
\move[8]{Balance and petronella}
\move[8]{Partner swing}
\move[8]{Left diagonal: Right and left through}
\begin{flushleft}
  {\footnotesize \textbf{Notes} The Neighbor dosido into a partner see saw
  should be one fluid motion. Resist spinning in the dosido, and start
  revolving slowly over your right shoulder as you enter the see saw and
  everything will flow. Make sure lines have \textbf{lots} of space for the
  dosido.}
\end{flushleft}
\vspace*{\fill}
\begin{flushright}
\href{http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/}{%
  \IfFileExists{by.png}{%
    \includegraphics[width=40px]{by.png}%
  }{\cc\by}}
\end{flushright}
\end{contra}

```

Duple becket

## Code's Compiling

### Sam Whited

A1. Neighbor dosido; Partner see saw

A2. Shadow swing

B1. Balance and petronella; Balance and petronella

B2. Partner swing; Left diagonal: Right and left through

**Notes** The Neighbor dosido into a partner see saw should be one fluid motion. Resist spinning in the dosido, and start revolving slowly over your right shoulder as you enter the see saw and everything will flow. Make sure lines have **lots** of space for the dosido.



## 7.2 Untitled Blues Contras by Seth Tepfer

These blues contras consist of three, 16 count phrases (A1, B1, and C1). The first employs the `\newdancephrase` command to reset the phrase every 16 counts, the second changes the `dancephraselength` and lets `contracard` handle figuring out how to break up the phrases.

## Untitled Blues № 1

```
\renewcommand*{\partdelimiter}{:}
\begin{contra}{Untitled Blues \textnumero\ 1}{Seth Tepfer}{Duple Minor Im.}
  \move[8]{Neighbor gypsy}
  \move[8]{Ladies gypsy}
  \newdancephrase
  \move[16]{Partner balance and swing}
  \newdancephrase
  \move[8]{Ladies chain}
  \move[8]{Left hand star}
  \vspace*{\fill}
  \begin{flushright}
    \href{http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/}{%
      \IfFileExists{by-nc.png}{%
        \includegraphics[width=40px]{by-nc.png}%
      }{\cc\bync}}
  \end{flushright}
\end{contra}
```

Duple Minor Im.

## Untitled Blues № 1

### Seth Tepfer

A1: Neighbor gypsy; Ladies gypsy

B1: Partner balance and swing

C1: Ladies chain; Left hand star



## Untitled Blues № 2

```
\setlength{\phrasevspace}{0em}
\setcounter{dancephraselength}{16}
\begin{contra}{Untitled Blues \textnumero\ 2}{Seth Tepfer}{Duple Minor Im.}
  \move[8]{Neighbor gypsy}
  \move[8]{Gents allemande left 1\textonehalf}
```

```

\move[16]{Partner balance and swing}
\move[8]{\textonehalf\ promenade across set}
\move[8]{Ladies chain}
\vspace*{\fill}
\begin{flushright}
  \href{http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/}{%
    \IfFileExists{by-nc.png}{%
      \includegraphics[width=40px]{by-nc.png}%
    }{\cc\bync}}
\end{flushright}
\end{contra}

```

Duple Minor Im.

## Untitled Blues № 2

**Seth Tepfer**

- A1. Neighbor gypsy; Gents allemande left  $1\frac{1}{2}$   
 B1. Partner balance and swing  
 C1.  $\frac{1}{2}$  promenade across set; Ladies chain



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	<code>dancephraselength</code> : Create a new counter for the phrase length	4
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	<code>\phrasevspace</code> : Allow custom phrase separation length	3