

What is Morris Dancing?

The precise origins of Morris are unconfirmed, but the dance probably originated in Spain. By the end of the 16th century in England, Morris dancing accompanied seasonal celebrations such as the coming of Spring and the Autumn harvest.

Different Styles

Over time a number of regional and local variations developed. The revival of traditional dancing in the early 20th Century meant that these styles were taken out of their "home" counties, but the origins can still be detected: Cotswold Morris is typified by the waving of handkerchiefs and the wearing of bells strapped to the dancer's legs. North West Morris dancers dance in clogs. Border Morris dancers wear tatter coats and sometimes disguise their faces. Longsword & Rapper dances are performed with swords which link the dancers throughout the dance.

Alive & Kicking!

The interest and revival in Morris Dancing has continued into the 21st Century. There are now over 500 teams in Britain as well as overseas, including Canada, USA, Hong Kong and Australasia. Many of the styles will be demonstrated at our festival and we hope you enjoy the performances.

Would you like to try it yourself?

This Festival is the climax to our dancing year. If you would like to have a go at Morris dancing yourself, then now is an ideal time. Our practice season starts at the beginning of October. If you would like to know more about it then have a chat with us or visit our websites.

www.ebormorris.org.uk

www.acornmorris.co.uk

Teams attending:

Acorn Morris	Black trousers, white shirts, black & green baldrics, yellow & orange hankies
Beat It	Black and purple outfits, clogs
Betty Luptons Ladle Laikers ²	Blue dresses, white smocks, red tights and black shoes
Black Diamond Mixed Cotswold Morris ²	Black trousers, white shirts, black waistcoats
Ebor Morris	White shirts and trousers, blue and maroon baldrics, grey top hats with ribbons
Flag and Bone Gang	Black trousers & shirts, hats with veil, red tatters at elbows and knees
Goathland Plough Stots ¹	Pink or blue tunics, grey trousers, longswords
Grimsby Morris ¹	White shirts, black breeches, braces, black top hats
Hebden Bridge Mill Hillies ¹	Headscarves, curlers and aprons in a rainbow of colours and wave bright yellow dusters
Mons Meg Rapper ¹	White shirts, black breeches, blue socks, tartan sash, rapper swords
Mortimer's Morris ¹	Black skirts with purple and green inserts, black tops, purple and green ribbon applique waistcoats.
Rhubarb Tarts ¹	Clothes in mixed colours of rhubarb with painted faces.
Richmond on Swale Morris Men ²	Black britches, white shirts and socks, black baldrics with red rosettes
Rivington Morris	Red skirts, purple sashes, white smocks, black clogs, straw hats with purple and red ribbons
Saddleworth Morris Men	Black britches, white socks and shirts, red white and blue striped waistcoats, clogs
Sheffield City Morris	White shirts, green trousers, blue braces with rosettes, white shoes
Stone the Crows Border Morris ¹	Black trousers, black tatters, black hats
Sullivan's Sword ²	Maroon & gold waistcoats, white shirts, green moleskin trousers, longswords
The Brackley Morris Men	White shirts and trousers, baldrics with rosettes and cummerbund, black top hats with ribbons/ rosettes.
Wakefield Morris Dancers ¹	White shirts, blue britches or tights, blue sash and cap, clogs
Waters Green Morris ¹	White shirt, black trousers, blue and green sash
Key: 1- Saturday only. 2- Sunday only	