THE IDEA: In a Left Allemande position, there are two groups of four (4) dancers each. The caller focuses attention on one of these groups and uses choreography which will keep these four (4) dancers together. When the caller wants a Left Allemande, calls are used to get the group of four (4) dancers back to the same way they were at the beginning. Call Left Allemande.

STARTING POSITION: Zero Box (i.e., Heads – or Sides – Square Thru 4 hands). This means we have a matched couple (together as original partners) on the outside of the set, and a mismatched couple (do not have original partners) on the inside of the set.

THE ACTION: Call anything you want as long as it keeps these 4 dancers together in a box, wave, line, column, etc. (Some teachers suggest you imagine a elastic band around the four dancers and anything which keeps the four together is allowable.)

RESOLUTION: Use calls which place the dancers back into an 8 chain thru formation, keeping your 4 dancers together in one box, change the boys and girls so that the matched couple is on the outside and the mismatched couple in the center. Call Left Allemande.

CALLS THAT KEEP THE 4 DANCERS TOGETHER:

From Zero Box:
A. Touch ¼ (Use any of the following but not consecutive calls)
   1. Scoot Back
   2. Walk & Dodge
   3. Follow Your Neighbor & Spread

B. Swing Thru, Boys Run (Use any of the following but not consecutive calls)
   1. Couples Circulate (Group of 4 is together with one couple in front of the other.)
      (If circulate twice, then all together in a two faced line, but the entire square has moved 180°)
   2. Girls Hinge (gives diamonds, use Diamond Circulate + Flip the Diamond)

C. Slide Thru
   1. Right & Left Thru
   2. Square Thru
   3. Touch ¼ (group of 4 is in one box of a column)
      a. Split Circulate
      b. All 8 Circulate twice, Partner Trade & Roll (group is now in one line of facing lines)
   4. Pass Thru – Bend the Line (group is now together in a line)
      a. Pass Thru – Wheel & Deal (group is in a starting DPT)
         1. Now call: DPT, Cloverleaf (group is all in one column)
         2. Now call: DPT, Centers In – Cast Off 3/4 (group is same sex facing, i.e.,
            two boys facing two girls)
      b. Touch ¼ (group is in same column, lined up behind one another)
         1. Now call: All 8 Circulate twice (group is now in one box of a column)

"ACROSS THE STREET" VARIATION: Use only after you are comfortable with basic Isolated Sight.

"Across the Street" breaks up your groups of 4, so that the dancers get a chance to dance with everyone in the set and not always the same group of 4.
LOCATION OF "THE STREET": An imaginary line drawn across the set splitting the Head men and their partners. (Or: line could be drawn to split the Side couples instead.)

Call "Heads Star Thru" – Heads have not "crossed the street".
Now call "Centers Pass Thru" – Heads have now "crossed the street".
Now you use calls that have Boy #1 & Girl #3 work with Couple #2 for a while.

RESOLUTION: Take Boy #1 & Girl #3 back across the street so they are facing Couple #4. This is the Zero Box position, so a Left Allemande is appropriate.

USE OF 'ACROSS THE STREET' VARIATIONS:

A. Use at start of sequence (above example).
B. Use during a sequence. Start in a Zero Box, give some calls, then take one couple "across the street", give some calls there, then move them back "across the street" to the Zero Box.

IMPORTANT RULE: The street must be crossed twice, by:

A. The same couple twice.
B. Each couple once (totals twice).
   1. In our example above, instead of taking Boy #1 & Girl #3 back across the street after having worked with Couple #2, take Couple #4 across the street to Boy #1 & Girl #3. (While this may be the same to the caller, it feels different for the dancers since they are in a different location.)

Some examples of "Across the Street" variations:

Zero Box

A. Swing Thru, Boys Run,
   1. Couples Circulate. (Technically the four are together at this point but we are only looking at Couple #2 and the #1 Boy and #3 Girl.) Girls Hinge, (now in diamonds but not in same foursome as Zero Box.) Diamond Circulate, Flip the Diamond, Girls Trade, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Wheel & Deal, – now take them back 'Across the Street' by calling Pass Thru, Trade By. Allemande Left.

B. Right & Left Thru,
   1. Pass Thru, Trade By, (dancers are "Across the Street"), Swing Thru, Spin the Top, Single Hinge, Split Circulate, Boys Run, Star Thru, Pass Thru, Wheel & Deal, Square Thru 3/4, (back into Zero Box but in different quadrant and ready for an Allemande Left.)
   2. Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Chain Down the Line, Star Thru, Pass Thru, Trade By, Allemande Left.