

REEL (O.E. *hréol*, glossed by the Med. Lat. *alibrum* in *Aelfric's Glossary*, c. 1050; the word is of unknown origin; it does not appear in cognate languages, and Celtic forms such as Gaelic *ruidhíl* are from English), a cylinder or apparatus of cylindrical shape on which a thread or line can be wound; *e.g.* the small wooden cylinder with projecting rims at either end on which sewing cotton or silk is wound for immediate use, the revolving "click-reel" attached to a fishing-rod, and the open revolving framework on which thread is wound as it is spun. The name of the Scottish dance (Gaelic *righil*, *ruithil*) is probably the same word (see **DANCE**). In architecture, an ornamental moulding consisting of spherical-shaped bodies alternating with flat reel-shaped disks placed on edge is known as a "bead and reel" moulding.