

FIELD TRAINING PREP DRILL MANUAL



Revised 19 March 2020

Command Voice

- Remember: **LIPS** (Loudness, Inflection, Projection, Snap)
 - **Loudness:** the volume of the command (should be adjusted to the number of people in formation) → usage of the diaphragm is important
 - **Inflection:** “change in pitch of the voice”
 - Preparatory command = near the level of one’s natural speaking voice
 - Command of execution = higher pitch than preparatory command
 - *THINK* a staircase
 - **Cadence:** should be monotone (HUT, TOOP, THREEP, FOURP)
 - **Projection:** ability of your voice to reach a desired distance w/o straining it
 - **Snap:** quality in a command that demands immediate responds; shows your confidence
 - Don’t drag out your commands and be sure to speak clearly

Calling Commands

- Commander must always be at the position of attention
- Commands will be called on the correct foot (list is not extensive):
 - Right foot: right flank, column right, eyes right, to the rear, change step, close march
 - Left foot: left flank, column left, forward march (when at a mark time), extend march

- **As you were:** this can only be called to revoke a preparatory command

Stationary Commands (these will be quick tips and details to look out for)

- **Right/Left FACE:** pin your arms!
 - When commanding, make sure to wait for your guidon bearer to be able to lift the guide up for the preparatory commands
- **About FACE:** keep your right leg straight when you put it behind you to pivot, “drawing” a C as you do so
- **Parade REST:** feet should be **12** inches apart
 - Arms should be straight but relaxed (no windows!)
 - Your right thumb should be **over** your left
- **Present Arms:** your upper arm should be parallel to the ground when holding a salute
 - Refer to your FTM to understand the rules of when to salute and who oversees rendering it in certain formations

Marching

- **Forward MARCH:** step off with the **left** foot; arm swing should be **six** inches to the front and **three** inches to the rear
 - Do not bend your elbows while marching
- **Double time, MARCH:** can be called at either halt or in quick time (AFMAN 36-2203 3.11.1)
 - To halt: call **Quick time, MARCH**, then **Flight, HALT** (while you can halt a flight while in

double time, it is safer to call quick time beforehand)

- Incline movements are the only commands that can be called in double time
- **Mark time, MARCH:** balls of your feet should be raised **four** inches off the ground
 - To resume marching, Forward MARCH is given on the left foot
- **Right (Left) Step, MARCH:** feet should be **12** inches apart
 - Cadence can be called (two and four are given as the heels come together)
 - To halt: the preparatory command and command of execution will be called when the heels are **together**
- **Change step, MARCH:** called on the **right** foot
 - How to: when the command is called, take an extra step with the left foot, bring the ball of the right foot and heel of the left foot together (this is done in **one count** and arm swing is **suspended**), then step off again with the left foot (AFMAN 36-2203, 3.15)
- **To the rear, MARCH:** called on the **right** foot
 - Remember the ditty: “**Half step, pivot, half step, full step**” to remember the length of your stride
 - Suspend your arms when pivoting!
- **Right (left) flank, MARCH:** called on the foot of the direction you want to go in
 - Suspend your arms when pivoting!

- **Route step/at ease, MARCH:** examples of marching other than at attention
 - Only incline movements can be called
 - Flight must be called to attention before other commands can be given
 - Difference between route step and at ease: during at ease march, silence is required (talking is allowed in route step)

Falling In

- The command is **FALL IN**
 - Do not say flight/squadron before FALL IN because this is not a proper command
- Proper **DCID** must be maintained (Dress, Cover, Interval, Distance)
 - **Dress:** aligning to the person on your right
 - **Cover:** being directly behind the person in front of you
 - **Interval:** spacing between the person to your right/left
 - You should be an **arm's length** away
 - **Distance:** how far you are from the person in front of you
 - **40 inches**

Aligning the Flight

- **Dress right, DRESS:** make sure your arm is **parallel** to the ground (unless you are the last cadet in the element) with your head turned 45 degrees to the right (except for the second and third element leaders)

- If your arm is too long, place it **behind** the cadet next to you
- **Cover**
 - Call this **IMMEDIATELY** after halting the flight/squadron
 - Can be called in column and inverted column formation
 - Column formation: the guide will be the point of reference
 - Inverted column formation: the leading individual of the base element will be the point of reference

Individuals Leaving Ranks

1. The command to call an individual is **(Rank and Last Name), FRONT AND CENTER**
2. The individual that was called up takes one step back, faces left or right, then takes the most direct route to the commander, stopping one pace in front of and centered on him/her
3. The individual will report in as directed
4. To return, the commander who lost command will ask to **RETURN TO RANKS** then returns to the position left vacant by the new commander

Close, MARCH

(Halted)

1. On the command **MARCH**, the third element will **stand fast**, second element takes **two** right steps, first element takes **four** right steps

(Marching)

1. The command is **Close, MARCH** (called on the right foot)
2. On the command **MARCH**
 - a. **Third element** takes up the half step
 - b. **Second element** pivots 45 degrees to the right on the ball of the left foot, takes one 24-inch step with the right foot, then pivots 45 degrees back to the left on the ball of the right foot
 - c. **First element** pivots 45 degrees to the right on the ball of the left foot, takes three 24-inch step with the right foot, then pivots 45 degrees back to the left on the ball of the right foot
3. All elements will half step to obtain proper DCID until **Forward, MARCH** is called

Extend, MARCH

(Halted)

1. Reverse the procedures to obtain close interval to obtain normal interval

(Marching)

1. Similar to close march except
 - a. Extend, MARCH is called on the **left** foot
 - b. Pivots will be made with the **right** foot

Column right (left), MARCH

- As the base element (the first element when going left and third element when going right), do not immediately half step

- Instead, **take an extra 24-inch step** after pivoting 90 degrees (this gives room for the cadets behind you to step forward after pivoting)
- If you are pivoting 45 degrees, **maintain coordinated arm swing** i.e. do not pin your arms when pivoting!
- As the Flight/Squadron CC, you can call **forward, MARCH** immediately after
 - You do not have to wait for your whole flight to complete the movement beforehand to save space
- **Guide:** the guide will perform the same steps as the third element leader and continues 24-inch steps until he/she is directly in front of the third element leader
 - Once this is accomplished, he/she pivots 45 degrees to a position in front of the third element leader then 45 degrees again to the front and begins half-stepping
- **From a halt:** for column left, element leaders will begin with a facing movement. For column right, element leaders will take one 24-inch step forward, then execute the movement

Column Half Right (Left), MARCH

- On the command MARCH, element leaders will pivot 45 degrees to the right/left
 1. The innermost element leader will begin half-stepping until the other element leaders are abreast
 2. Once all are abreast, the element leaders will resume 24-inch steps

Column of Files from the Right (Left), Forward, MARCH

- All element leaders will keep their heads turned 45 degrees to the right (left) until they step off
- **Guide:** If movement is from the left, he/she will take position in front of the first element leader after hearing the informational command

SQUADRON MARCHING

Calling Commands

- The Flt/CC will echo the preparatory commands of the Sq/CC
 - Guidon bearers will move on the command of their Flt/CC
- If the Squadron is at a halt and the Sq/CC commands a column movement (e.g. **Column right, MARCH**), A, B and C Flt/CC will echo the preparatory command as such:
 - A Flt: “**COLUMN RIGHT**”
 - B & C Flt: “**Forward**”
 - ***NOTE*** B & C Flt/CCs will call the column right approximately where the preceding flight performed the movement
- If the Squadron is marching and the Sq/CC commands a column movement (e.g. **Column right, MARCH**), A, B and C Flt/CC will echo the preparatory command as such:
 - A Flt: “**COLUMN RIGHT**”
 - B & C Flt: “**Continue the march**”

Formation

- Spacing in line formation:
 - Sq/CC: Nine paces from the flights
 - Flt/CC: Three paces from his/her flight
 - Flights are three paces away from each other

Disclaimer: the following pieces of information are not found in AFMAN 36-2203; however, they will be used at Field Training. Because these are not found in the drill manual, the way they are performed at Field Training may change – use these movements understanding that.

Rotate movements

- Rotate movements will be performed in the grass or other uneven terrain (you should not pivot on these surfaces)
- Calling a rotate movement is the same as a normal command. The difference lies in how the movement is performed:
 - Rather than pivoting, take two rotating “steps” towards the direction you are commanded to go in. All in all, the point of this is to **smartly find a way to not pivot (in two movements)**.

NOTE Another way to call a rotate movement is by calling “**Rotate __ degrees to the right/left**” → if this happens, you will perform the rotate movement as described above. Inflection will be the same as if you were calling an incline movement while marching.

Rolling Cadence

1. “**Initiate rolling cadence**” called on the right foot by the Sq/CC with a word called every time the right heel strikes the ground
2. Flt/CC’s will take turns calling cadence with no breaks transitioning from one Flt/CC to the other (begin with Alpha, then Bravo, then Charlie, then back to Alpha)
3. “**Suspend rolling cadence**” called on the left foot in the same manner that “initiate rolling cadence” was called

Squadron Marching Formation (aka Column Formation)

- Sq/CD should be the one calling “report” and telling the squadron to fall in, **not** the Sq/CC
- Flights should be in column formation (after the Sq/CC calls a right face) **before** the Sq/CD and Flt/CC’s post