

Opora

Command voice

Drill commands are best given in an excellent command voice. A command voice is characterized by DLIPS: **D**istinctness, **L**oudness, **I**nflection, **P**rojection, and **S**nap.

Common drill commands

Australia, New Zealand, and United Kingdom

Each of the three services in the United Kingdom has its own drill manuals. Most commands are the same across all three services, but there are significant differences in the way movements are carried out.¹

- *Mark Time*: March without movement in the Quick time pace (a pace of 116 paces to the minute (normal) and up to 140 paces to the minute (recruits and Rifle regiments))
- *Forward*: continue marching in quick time without breaking step
- *Change step on the march*: order to step in on the left foot on the march (despite the name no change in the step should be made if completed properly).

Commands:

- *Squad*: Push your arms down behind your back and let your shoulders lock into place. Brace and push your chest out and hold your head up high.
- *Squad atten-shun (Attention)*: *Bring your left leg up at 90 degrees and stamp down so both of your feet are in a 'V' shape.*
- *Stand at ease*: Standing at ease is exactly the same as squad, just don't lock your shoulders or brace up.
- *Stand easy*: Bring your arms behind your back at the top of your behind.
- *Squad will turn to the left in file, left turn*: Use the toes of your left foot and the heel of your right to pivot to your left. Stamp down like you would in Squad Attention..
- *Squad will turn to the right in file, right turn*: Use the heel of your left foot and the toes of your right to pivot to your right. Stamp down like you would in Squad Attention.

Canada

The commands in English are very similar to British Drill commands while the commands in French are generally translations of the English. The [Canadian Forces](#) sometimes call weapon

drill in French while march commands are called in English. This is done at units such as trades schools where both English and French are used. Unilingual English units and unilingual French units generally use their own language for all commands. Commands are broken up into two parts: the "precautionary" (i.e. "Squad, single file from the left quick -") followed by the "executive" (-MARCH). There is a standard pause of two paces in quick time or one full second between the two commands, as well as between all drill movements.

Standard English commands

States

- *Attention*: Standing with heels together, toes Forty-Five degrees apart and body rigid with fists clenched and thumbs pointing down seams of trousers. Thumbs will cover the hole formed by curled fingers.
- *Stand At Ease* or "At Ease"(informal): Stand with feet shoulder width apart (Approx. 12 inches) and hands behind tail bone, body braced. Palms of hands are open, facing behind the person with the right hand over the left.
- *Stand Easy*: Stand with feet shoulder width apart, upper body is relaxed without slouching. No talking.

Movements

For turns, basic precautionaries are "Advance/retire/move to the (right/left)" where turns to the right and left flanks are "move to the right in threes (three ranks) / in twos (two ranks) / in file." Inclines do not use directive precautionaries unless on a parade, where the chain of command will deem it appropriate.

- *To the (Front, Left, Right) Salute*: Salute to the (front, left, right) (When called on the march, is called on the left foot)
- *Right Turn*: Turn 90 degrees to the right (When called on the march, is called on the left foot)
- *Left Turn*: Turn 90 degrees to the left (When called on the march, is called on the right foot)
- *About Turn*: Turn 180 degrees to face the opposite direction (always turning to the right) (When called on the march, is called on the right foot)
- *Right Incline*: Turn 45 degrees to the right (When called on the march, is called on the left foot)
- *Left Incline*: Turn 45 degrees to the left (When called on the march, is called on the right foot)
- *Dismiss*: Turn 90 degrees to the right, salute (if the Canadian flag is present on the parade square), and march (off the parade square or until three paces have been completed)
- *Open order march*: The ranks of a formed group will take three check paces away from the centre rank. (When there are three ranks, the front rank will take three check paces forward and the rear rank will take three check paces backwards. When there are two ranks, only the rear rank takes three check paces back)
- *Close order march*: The ranks of a formed group will take three check paces toward the centre rank. (When there are three ranks, the front rank will take three check paces

backwards and the rear rank will take three check paces forwards. When there are two ranks, only the rear rank takes three check paces forward)

- *Right/Inwards dress*: The formed group will take one check pace forward (excluding the right marker), the front rank will put out their right arm, and all ranks will turn their head and eyes towards the right on a right dress or towards the colour party on an inwards dress. They then shuffle back and everyone will align themselves with the person on their right/left. The right/left marker remains in place during the movement. (The movement can be adjusted for elbow or shoulder dressing. The commander will add the words "Elbow/Shoulder dressing-" before "right/inwards dress").

Marching

- *By the (Left, Centre, or Right) Quick march*: Marching in quick time (120 beats per minute), arms swing breast-pocket high in the front and as far as possible in the back.
- *By the (Left, Centre, or Right) Slow march*: Marching in slow time (60 beats per minute), arms checked at sides.
- *By the (Left, Centre, or Right) Double march*: Marching in double time (180 beats per minute), bend arms at the elbow and swing naturally from the shoulder.
- *Mark time*: Called on the right foot when on the march. A check pace is taken on the left foot, the right slides beside the left, and then marches on the spot starting with the left foot. (The formed group will still continue with the pace used (quick or slow (cannot mark time while in double time))). Knees are raised and bent 90 degrees while marking time.
- *Forward*: Called on the left foot while marking time. A pace will be taken on the right foot and then begin marching forward starting with the left foot.