



A ROUGH GUIDE TO DRILL MANOEUVRES FOR THE 3/95th

General Notes

The purpose of these instructions is to provide an informal guide to the new drill manoeuvres. It is hoped they will simply serve to give us all a general idea of what each move is trying to achieve and where we should all position ourselves. A few general notes are below:

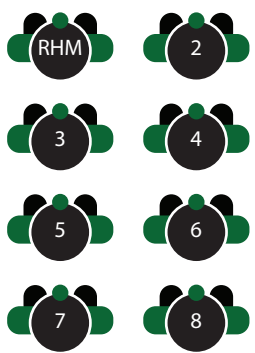
When we form up and march off, the guys in the front rank will **always** be in the front rank, which should help when forming as they know they're the ones who always need to end up in the front.

When marching off the command would say something along the lines of "Company will advance with the right in front" this way when there's an order to front form the command will form on the right. If the command was "with the left in front" then it would be on the left.

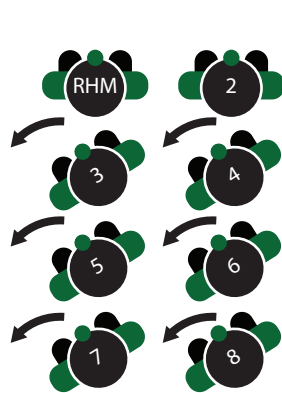
When forming Indian files, the rear rank always fall in behind the front rank.

To the FRONT FORM

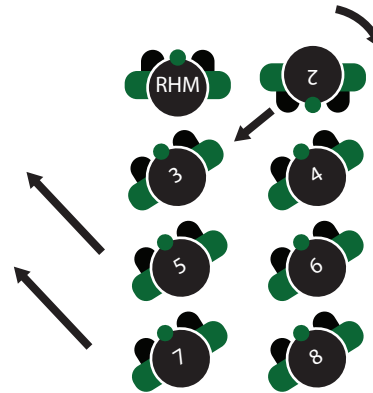
The purpose of this move is to go from a column to a line facing a threat in front of us with the Right Hand Marker (RHM) ending up on the right hand side of the line at the front



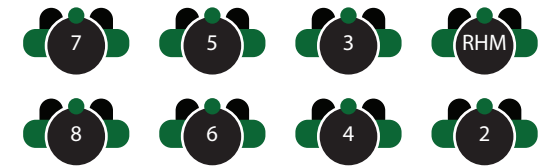
Starting Position
marching in column.



1st Phase
On hearing the command Front Form the company HALT. Everyone except the front pair will take a 1/4 turn to their left.



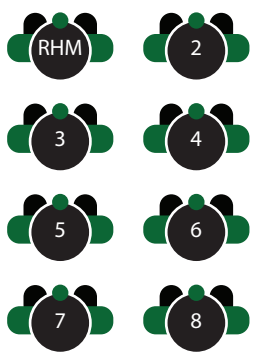
2nd Phase
After a short pause all except RHM will move. Rfn.2 will about face and step in behind RFM. Everyone else will step diagonally, at wheeling pace, to their left, forming to the front and then take their dressing on RHM



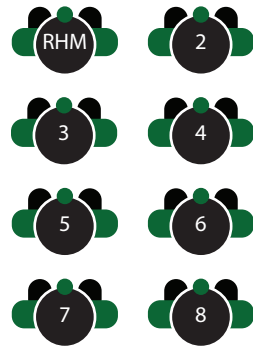
Final Position

To the LEFT FORM

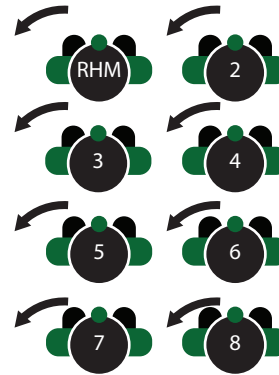
When 'the enemy' is on our left, the purpose of this move is to go from a column to a line facing a threat on the left, it is essentially a 'left face'



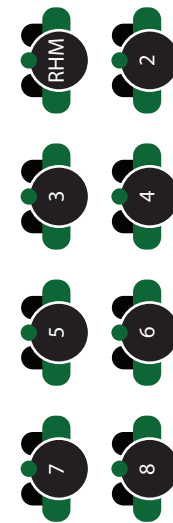
Starting Position
marching in column.



1st Phase
On hearing the command
Left Form the company
will HALT.



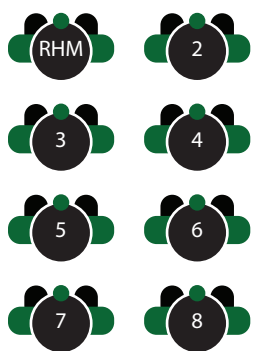
2nd Phase
After a short pause,
everyone left faces, and
takes their dressing on
RHM.



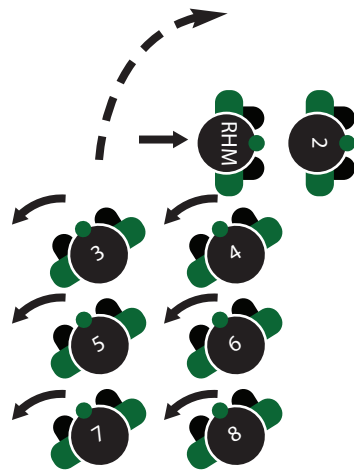
Final Position

To the RIGHT FORM

Like the 'left form', the purpose of this move is to go from a column to a line facing a threat on the right. Note that the RHM always has to be on the right of the line, so the squad needs to move around the RHM.

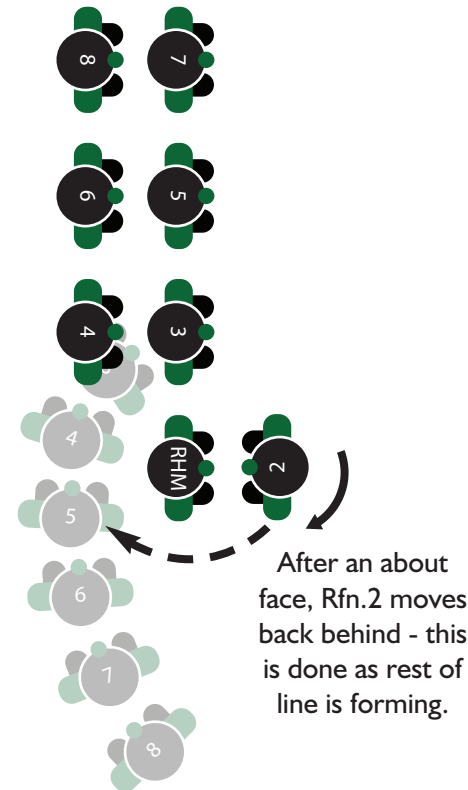


Starting Position
marching in column.



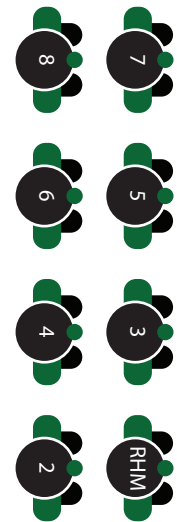
1st Phase

On hearing the command Right Form, the company HALT. The front pair (RHM and Rfn.2) right face and take one step forward. The rest of the company take a $\frac{1}{4}$ turn to their left.



2nd Phase

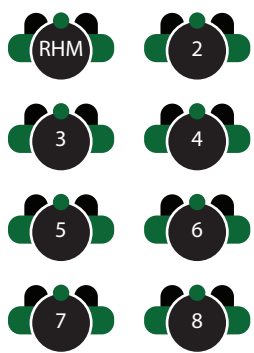
After a short pause, everyone except RHM move. Rfn.2 will about face and step round behind RHM. The rest of the company will step forward forming Indian files. When forming Indian files the rear rank (Rfn.4-8) step in behind the front rank men (Rfn.3-7). As they move round, the pairs form into line.



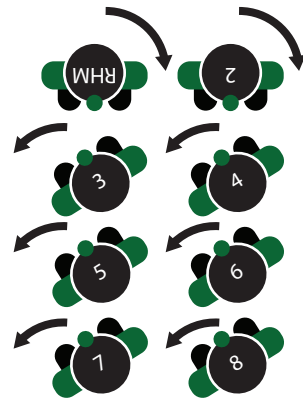
Final Position

To the RIGHT ABOUT FORM

Like the 'front right and left forms', the purpose of this move is to go from a column to a line facing a threat from behind us.

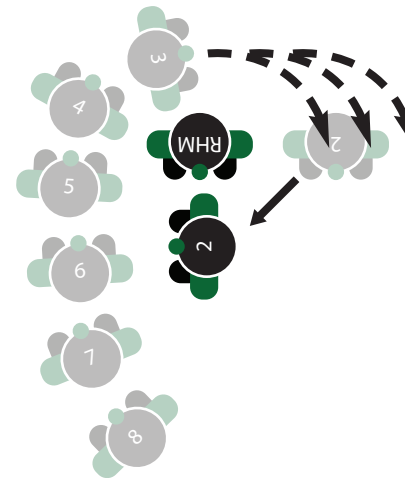


Starting Position
marching in column.



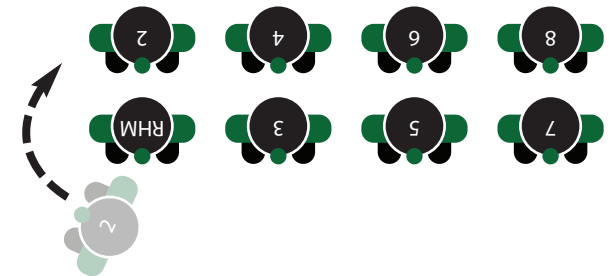
1st Phase

On hearing the command Right About Form, the company HALT. The front pair (RHM and Rfn.2) right about face, everyone else will take a 1/4 turn to their left.



2nd Phase

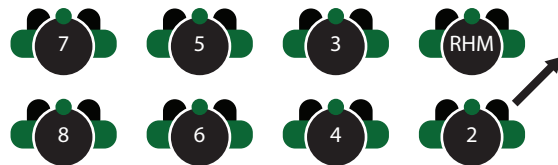
After a short pause Rfn.3-8 step forward forming Indian files, march past RHM on his right, moving around his back and start slotting in to RHM's left, starting with Rfn.3 and everyone slotting in in their pairs. As we move round Rfn.2 will quickly step into the space created in front of RHM, then once everyone has stepped through he will follow round and slot in behind RHM. Once everyone has fallen into position, they will eyes right dress.



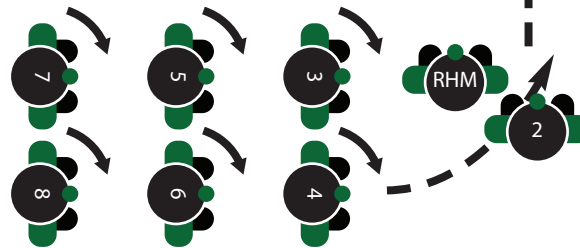
Final Position

ADVANCE FILES RIGHT

This move is used when the company is formed up in line, and the men are needed to march off in column with the right in front.

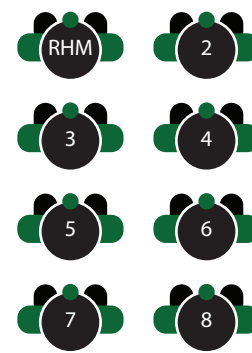


Starting Position
formed up in line.



1st Phase

After hearing the command Advance Files Right, RHM stands still, Rfn. 2 takes a 1/4 step diagonally to his right just behind the shoulder of RHM. Everyone else face right.

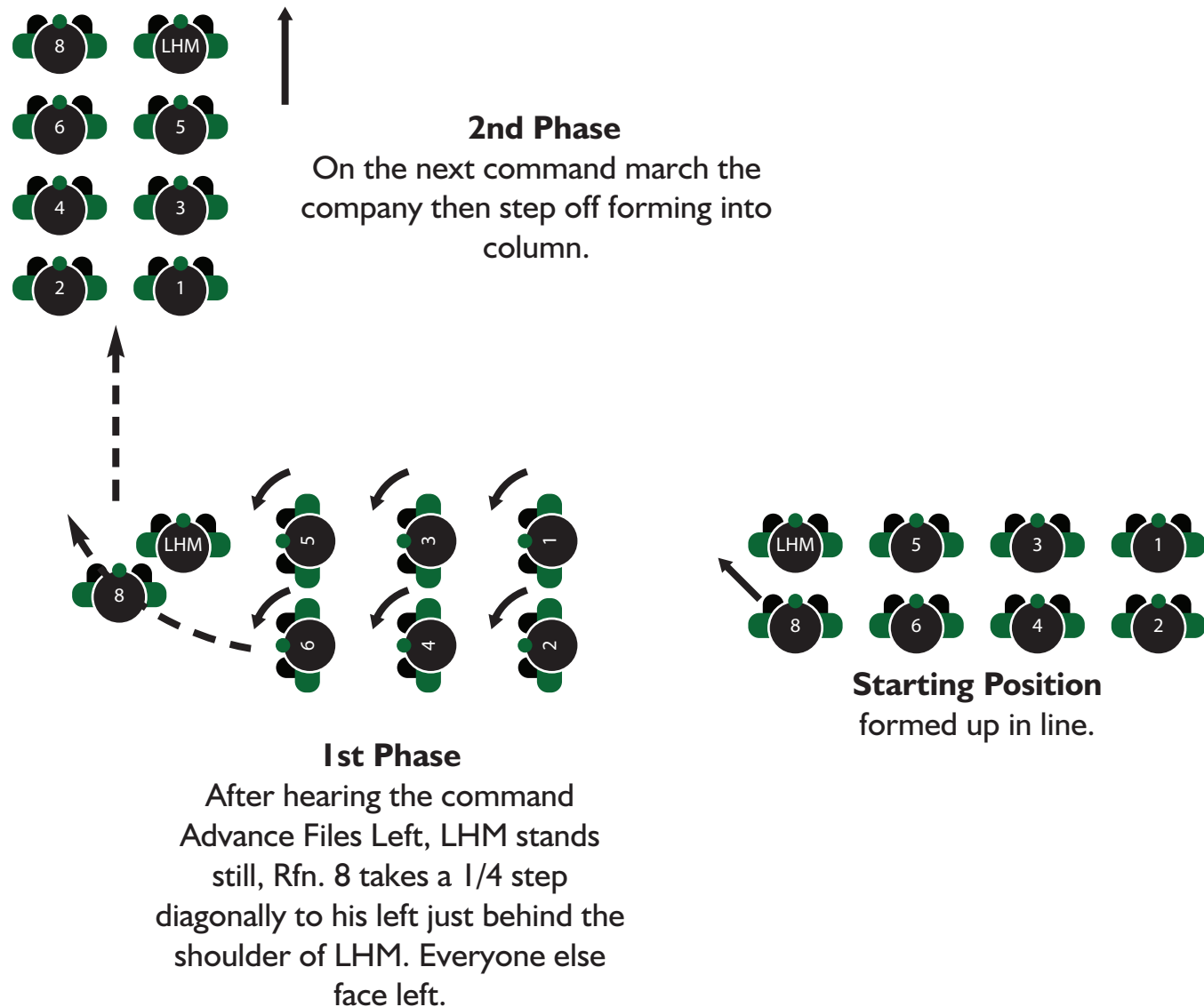


2nd Phase

On the next command march the company then step off forming into column.

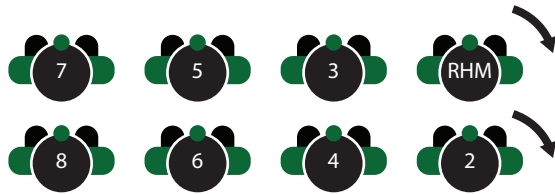
ADVANCE FILES LEFT

This manoeuvre is exactly the same as 'advance files right', but done to the left. This would mean the company will be advancing from line to column to the left with the left in front (meaning any further commands will involve LHM not RHM).

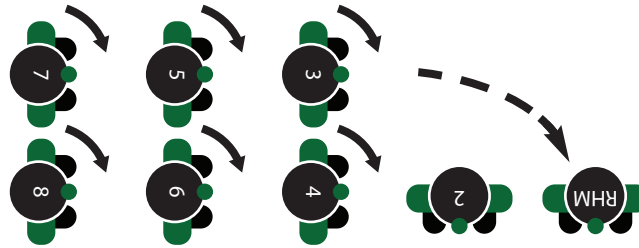


RETIRING FILES RIGHT

Retiring files is normally carried out from the front form (in line position) at the Halt. It is used when the company is required to retire and to march off in a column, this can be carried out with either the left or right in front.

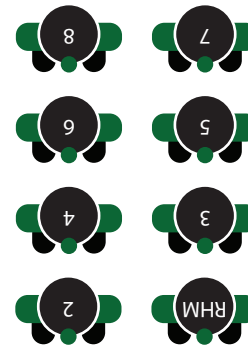


Starting Position
formed up in line.



1st Phase

On the words Retire Files Right, Rfn.2 **about faces**, RHM also about faces and steps to Rfn.2's left hand side, everyone else right faces.

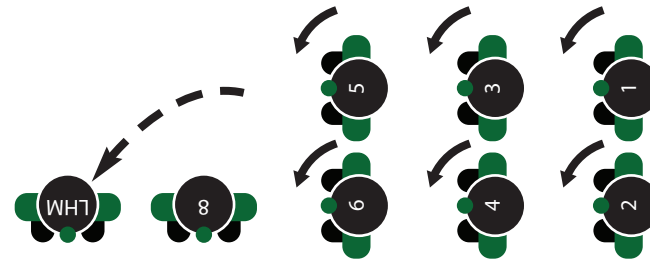


2nd Phase

On the word March, the whole section steps off, the front pair set the direction, the rest of the rifles follow behind, when they reach the pivot point they turn and follow the men in front.

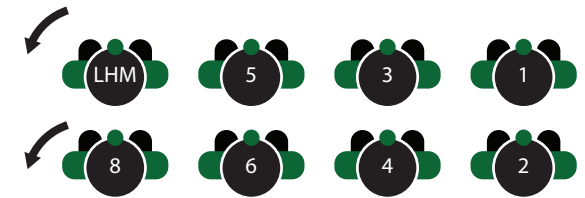
RETIRING FILES LEFT

Retiring files is normally carried out from the front form (in line position) at the Halt. It is used when the company is required to retire and to march off in a column, this can be carried out with either the left or right in front.



1st Phase

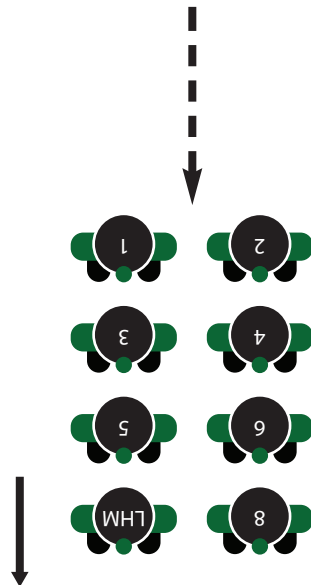
On the words Retire Files Left, Rfn.8 **about faces**, LHM also about faces and steps to Rfn.8's right hand side, everyone else left faces.



Starting Position
formed up in line.

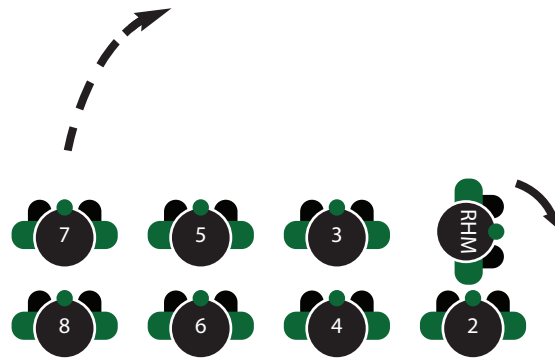
2nd Phase

On the word March, the whole section steps off, the front pair set the direction, the rest of the rifles follow behind, when they reach the pivot point they turn and follow the men in front.



RIGHT and LEFT WHEEL

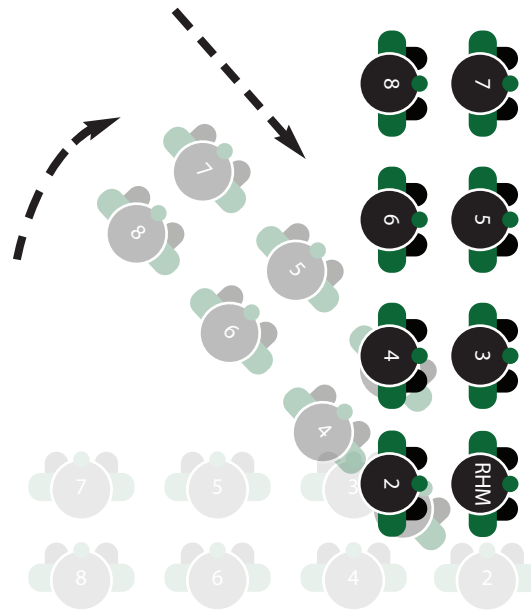
This move is used when the company is formed or marching in line, and we are needed to pivot 90 degrees to face a threat on the right or the left. It is carried out in quick time (120 steps in a minute).



RIGHT WHEEL

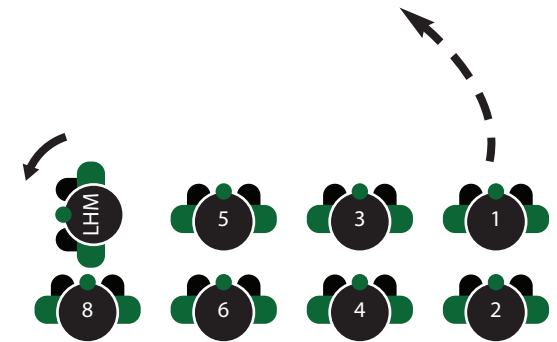
Starting Position

On the words Right Wheel, or if on the march the command would be Halt, Right Wheel. **The RHM faces right.**



1st Phase

Then on the word March the whole section/company march off in quick time, taking their dressing from the outward flank pressing into the pivot, the men closest to the pivot taking shorter steps, than those closer to the wheeling man. The rifles will aim not to bend, while keeping dressing. Then on the word Halt the section halts and waits for the word to Right Dress.



LEFT WHEEL

Starting Position

On the words Left Wheel, or if on the march the command would be Halt, Left Wheel. **The LHM faces left** and everyone then steps backwards as before.

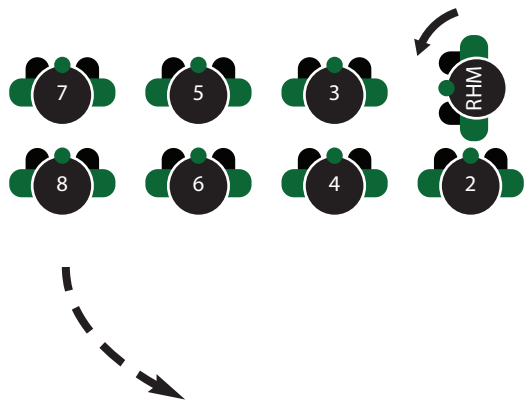
WHEELING BACKWARDS

This manoeuvre is very similar to right/left wheel but the biggest difference is the RHM/LHM face inwards, then on the word march the sections steps backwards. If on the march the section would first halt before moving.

RIGHT BACKWARDS WHEEL

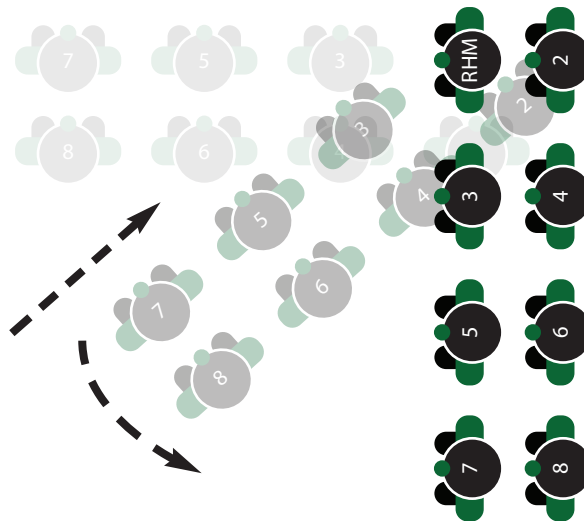
Starting Position

On the words On the Right Backwards Wheel, the RHM faces inwards.



1st Phase

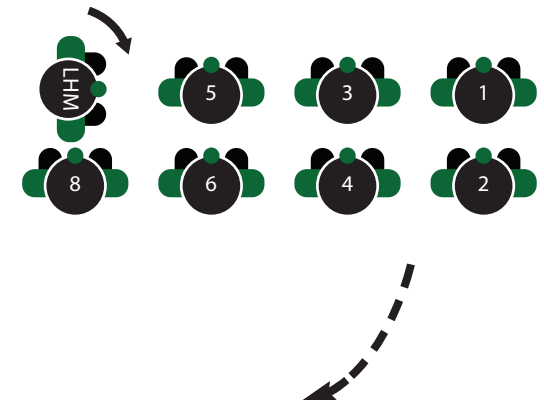
Then on the word March the rest of the section step backwards at quick time, taking their dressing from the flanking man and leaning into the pivot.



LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL

Starting Position

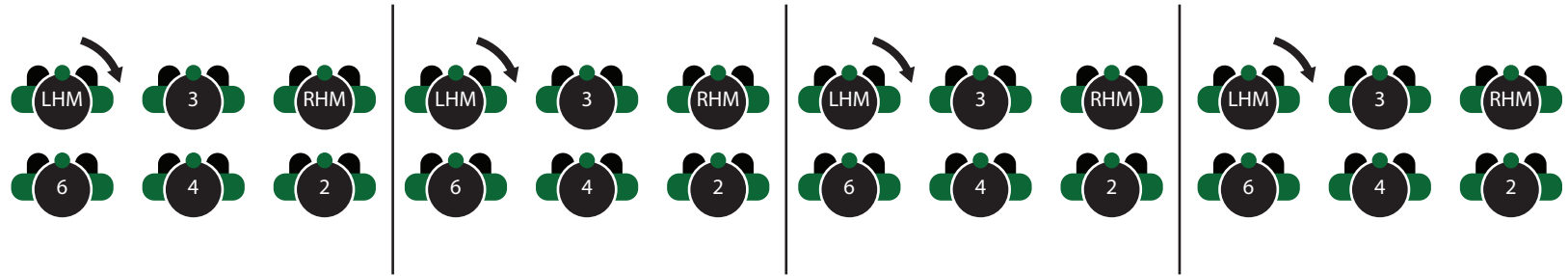
On the words On the Left Backwards Wheel, the LHM faces inwards and everyone then steps backwards as before



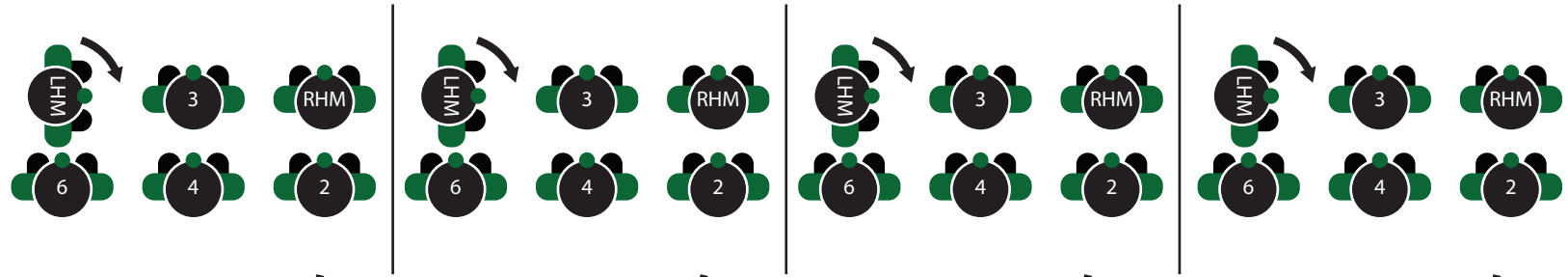
WHEELING IN SECTIONS

An open column of sections is used when the company/battalion is formed up in line and it is needed to march off in column, instead of being a really long line of men two files wide. Whilst the commands are slightly different, the movement and positions are the same as right/ left wheeling or right/left backwards wheeling - except we are in small sections - mini wheels, if you like! Each section has an LHM and a RHM as shown below. In this example we will show the movements for a Left Backwards Wheel - note the change in the commands

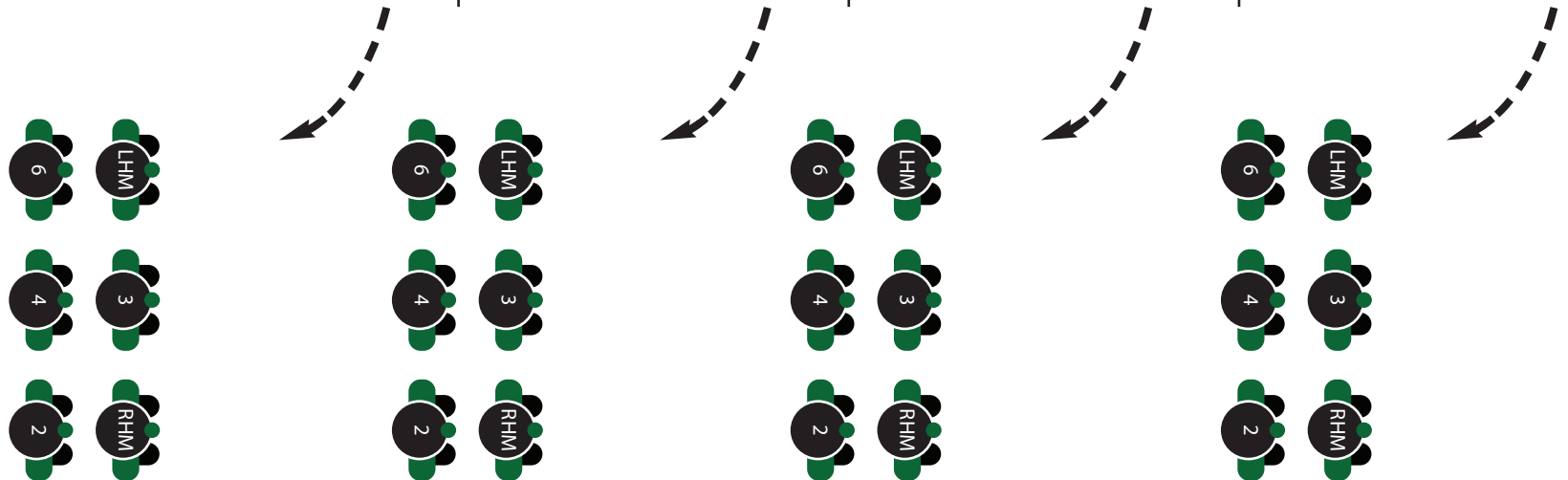
The Battalion will advance in an open column of sections with the Right in front. At this stage each section could either 'Right Front Wheel', or 'Left Backwards wheel' either would leave the RHM in front on the right.



By Section Left Backwards Wheel. We now know we are going to do a left backwards wheel, so LHM faces inwards as in a regular backwards wheel.



March. We march backwards just like in a normal backwards wheel. It is essential we keep the space in front because at some point we will right wheel back in to line.



Reference

N.B. The words in *italics* are the words of command; the word in **bold italics** is the executive (the word that initiates the movement).

Position of the Riflemen (without arms)

The shoulders should equal and square. The heels must be inline and together. The knees straight without stiffness. The toes a little turned out, so that the feet form an angle of 60°. With the arms hanging to the side of the body but not stiff, with the flat of the hand and little finger touching the thigh; the thumbs as far back as the seams of the trousers. The elbows and shoulders to be kept back; with the belly drawn in, and the chest advanced. The body should be upright, but inclined forward so that the weight of it principally bears on the fore part of the feet; the head erect and looking straight ahead,

Standing at Ease/Attention (without arms)

On the words *Stand at **Ease***, the right foot is to be drawn back about six inches, and the greatest part of the weight of the body brought upon it, the left knee a little bent, the hands brought together before the body, but the shoulders to be back and square with the head in front.

On the word **Attention**, the hands are to fall smartly down the outside of the thigh, the right heel brought up in line with the left, forming the unconstrained position resumed.

When standing at ease, then stand easy, the riflemen may be permitted to

take on water or remove limbs, but without quitting their ground, so that upon the word Attention, the riflemen can quickly stand to attention without having to dress the line.

Dressing when Halted

Dressing can be done either to the right or to the left. On the words *Left/Right **Dress***, each individual will cast their eyes to the direction given, with the smallest turn of the head possible, keep shoulders and body square to the front. The rifleman will then move as necessary, taking short quick steps to align himself to the marker at the end of the line in the direction required. Adjusting forward and backwards without bending the body until reaching desired position, when the whole line is in a straight/level position, the dressing is then complete.

Once the move has finished, the following command is given:

*Eyes **Front***. All riflemen will then assume the correct position of Attention.

Eyes to the Right/Left/Front

On the words, *Eyes, **Right***, glance the eyes to the right, with the slightest turn of the head possible.

On the words, *Eyes, **Left***, cast the eyes in the similar position but to the left.

On the words, *Eyes, **Front***, the look, and head are to be moved directly to the front.

Facings

In going through the facings, the left heel never leaves the ground; the body must be inclined forward, and the knees kept straight.

To the Right **Face**

1st Place the hollow of the right foot smartly against the left heel, keep the shoulders square to the front

2nd Raise the toes, and turn to the right on both heels.

To the Left, **Face**

1st, Place the right heel against the hollow of the right foot, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd Raise the toes, and turn to the left on both heels.

To the Right about, **Face**

1st Place the ball of the right toe against the left heel, keeping the shoulders square to the front

2nd Raise the toes and turn to the right about on both heels

3rd Bring the right foot smartly back in line with the left.

To the Left, about **Face**

1st Place the right heel against the ball of the left foot, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd Raise the toes, and turn to the left about on both heels.

3rd Bring up the right foot smartly in line with the left.

Numbering

Numbering of files can be achieved from either plank.

On words from the right, **Number**, the man on the right of the front rank shouts in a loud clear voice **1**, the man on his left then states **2**, this continues to the left in increasing numbers (3,4,5,6,7,8,etc.) until it reaches the last man, who then call out **Last man Sir**, if no officer present then use the rank of the NCO leading the drill.

Other examples of numbering:

*On the words from the right, by twos, **Number, then 1,2,1,2,1,2,etc***

*On the words from the right, by threes, **Number, then 1,2,3,1,2,3,etc***

Open Order

This move is carried out when the rifles are being inspected by an Officer/NCO. The rear rank will step back creating the space for the inspecting officer to move through the ranks.

1st Phase

The Rifles will be formed up in two ranks in close order, on the word *Rear Rank take open Order*, the flank men on the right/left of the rear ranks will

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step back briskly one pace, then face to their right (if an NCO is there he can then dress the line), and stand covered, to mark the ground on which the rear rank is to halt, and dress at open order; every other rifleman is ready to move.

2nd Phase

On the word ***March***, the dressers face front, and the rear rank fall back one pace, each dressing by the right the instant they arrive in position.

Close Order

On the word *Rear Rank take close Order*, the section will remain still until given the word ***March***, the rear rank closes up one pace, then dressers right.

Marching

Position in Marching

While marching the rifleman as much as possible remain the same posture as he would if standing at attention, being balanced on his limbs, his arms and hands by his side, steady without stiffness, with his back and body square to the front.

On the word ***March*** the rifleman will step off, always stepping off with his left foot first. Each step should be 30 inches in left.

Ordinary Step

The length of each pace, from heel to heel should be 30 inches, and the

rifleman must be able to do 75 steps a minute.

Although this is the slowest step.

ORDINARY TIME (75 steps a minute)

QUICK TIME (108 steps a minute)

WHEELING, or QUICKEST TIME (120 steps a minute)

The Halt

On the word ***Halt***, let the rear foot be brought upon a line with the Halt, advanced one, so to finish the step, which was being taken when the command was given. The section will then come to a complete stop.

Stepping out

The section is already marching in one direction in ordinary time. On the words ***STEP OUT*** the rifles will then lengthen their step to 33 inches.

This step is necessary while in march to close a gap.

Mark Time

On the words *Mark ***Time****, the section begins to march on the spot.

On the words *Ordinary ***Step****, the section resumes marching.

Step Short

On the words *Step ***Short****, the section while marching will reduce the length of step, this is used to create a gap in

front, or to slow the pace of march temporarily.

The Side or Closing Step

The side or closing step is performed from the halt in ordinary time, by the following commands. **The Side or Closing Step**

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*Close to the Right/Left, ***March***.*

Close to the Right March. Close to the Left March

In closing to the right/left, on the word March, eyes are turned to the right/left, then each rifleman carries his foot 12 inches directly right/left, to his neighbours left/right foot; and instantly brings up his other foot, touching heel to heel, the rifleman will continue until they reach the required number of steps. Or until halted, then dress before facing front.

Indian Files

On occasion when marching in column there may be a need to move through a narrow object, to get through this the column could form Indian files. Where the right file (the rear rank men) will step in behind the left hand file (the front rank men). Then once through the obstruction, reform the line.

1st Phase

On the words *Form Indian ***Files****, the

rifleman in the rear rank of files will move in behind their front rank partner. The front rank will step short to allow space. Thus forming a single column.

2nd Phase

Once through the obstruction. On the words *Form ***Files****, the rear rank will move back to their original positions and dressings.

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