
Manual of Arms.

POSITION OF ORDER ARMS.

1588. The hand low, the barrel between the thumb and fore-finger extended along the stock; the other fingers extended and joined; the muzzle about two inches from the right shoulder; the rammer in front; the toe (or beak) of the butt against and in a line with the toe of the right foot, the barrel perpendicular.

1589. When the instructor may wish to give repose in this position, he will command :

Rest.

1590. At this command, the recruits will not be required to preserve silence or steadiness.

1591. When the instructor may wish the recruits to pass from this position to that of silence and steadiness, he will command :

1. *Attention.*

2. SQUAD.

1592. At the second word, the recruits will resume the position of *order arms*.

Shoulder — ARMS.

ONE TIME AND TWO MOTIONS.

1593. *First motion.* — Raise the piece vertically with the right hand to the height of the right breast, and opposite the shoulder, the elbow close to the body; seize the piece, with the left hand below the right, and drop quickly the right hand to grasp the piece at the swell of the stock, the thumb and fore-finger embracing the guard; press the piece against the shoulder with the left hand, the right arm nearly straight.

Second motion. Drop the left hand quickly by the side.

1594. LOAD IN NINE TIMES.

1. *Load.**

ONE TIME AND TWO MOTIONS.

First motion. — Grasp the piece with the left hand, at the height of the shoulder, quit the piece with the right hand and carry it

* Whenever the loadings and firings are to be executed, the instructor will cause the cartridge boxes to be brought to the front.

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with the left hand across the body, so that the butt shall be to the left of the body and within three inches of the ground; seize the piece, with the right hand above the left.

Second motion.—Let the piece slip through the hands to the ground, without shock, so that it shall rest against the left thigh, the barrel to the front, inclining to the right, the rammer obliquely to the left and rear, the muzzle three inches from the centre of the breast; and place the left hand above the right, the thumb upon the rammer pipe, and carry the right hand to the cartridge box.

2. *Handle*—CARTRIDGE.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1595. Seize the cartridge with the thumb and next two fingers, and place it between the teeth.

3. *Tear*—CARTRIDGE.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1596. Tear the paper to the powder, hold the cartridge upright between the thumb and first two fingers, near the top; in this position place it in front of and near the muzzle, the back of the hand to the front

4. *Charge*—CARTRIDGE.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1597. Empty the powder into the barrel; disengage the ball from the paper with the right hand, and the thumb and first two fingers of the left; insert it into the bore, the pointed end uppermost, and press it down with the right thumb; seize the head of the rammer with the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, the other fingers closed, the elbows near the body.

5. *Draw*—RAMMER.

ONE TIME AND THREE MOTIONS.

1598. *First motion.*—Half draw the rammer by extending the right arm; steady it in this position with the left thumb; grasp the rammer

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near the muzzle with the right hand, the little finger uppermost, the nails to the front, the thumb extended along the rammer.

Second motion.—Clear the rammer from the pipes by again extending the arm; the rammer in the prolongation of the pipes.

Third motion.—Turn the rammer, the little end of the rammer passing near the left shoulder; place the head of the rammer on the ball, the back of the hand to the front.

6. *Ram* — CARTRIDGE.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1599. Insert the rammer as far as the right hand, and steady it in this position with the thumb of the left hand; seize the rammer at the small end with the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, the back of the hand to the front; press the ball home, the elbows near the body.

7. *Return* — RAMMER.

ONE TIME AND THREE MOTIONS.

1600. *First motion.*—Draw the rammer half way out, and steady it in this position with the left thumb; grasp it near the muzzle with the right hand, the little finger uppermost, the nails to the front, the thumb along the rammer; clear the rammer from the bore by extending the arm, the nails to the front, the rammer in the prolongation of the bore.

Second motion.—Turn the rammer, the head of the rammer passing near the left shoulder, and insert it in the pipes until the right hand reaches the muzzle, the nails to the front.

Third motion.—Force the rammer home by placing the little finger of the right hand on the head of the rammer; pass the left hand down the barrel to the extent of the arm, without depressing the shoulder.

*Manual of Arms.*8. *Prime*.*

ONE TIME AND TWO MOTIONS.

1601. *First motion*.—With the left hand raise the piece till the hand is as high as the eye; grasp the small of the stock with the right hand; half face to the right; place, at the same time, the right foot behind and at right angles with the left; the hollow of the right foot against the left heel. Slip the left hand down to the lower band, the thumb along the stock, the left elbow against the body; bring the piece to the right side, the butt below the right fore-arm, the small of the stock against the body, and two inches below the right breast, the barrel upwards, the muzzle on a level with the eye.

Second motion.—Half cock with the thumb of the right hand, the fingers supported against the guard and the small of the stock; remove the old cap with one of the fingers of the right hand, and with the thumb and fore-finger of the same hand take a cap from the pouch,

* If the *priming attachment* be used, the command will be, *load in eight times*, and the eighth command will be, *shoulder arms*, and executed from the position of *return rammer*, as follows:

First motion.—Raise the piece with the left hand, along the left side, the left hand at the height of the eyes, the fore-arm touching the piece, and seize the piece with the right hand at the small of the stock.

Second motion.—Carry the piece vertically across the body, and place it against the right shoulder, the left hand at that shoulder; change the position of the right hand, and seize the swell of the stock, the thumb and fore-finger embracing the guard, the right arm nearly extended.

Third motion.—Drop briskly the left hand by the side.

If it be desired to pass from the position of *return rammer* directly to the command *READY*, the eighth command of *shoulder arms* is to be omitted, and the command *READY* will be executed as follows:

First motion.—Raise the piece, with the left hand, along the left side, the left hand at the height of the eyes, the fore-arm touching the piece; seize the piece with the right hand, at the small of the stock, at the same time make a half face to the right, turning on the left heel, and place the hollow of the right foot against the heel of the left; at the same time pass the piece across the body, and place it against the right shoulder, the cock at the height of the hip.

Second and third motions.—The same as the *second* and *third motions* of *READY* from *shoulder arms* (No. 1603).

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place it on the nipple, and press it down with the thumb; seize the small of the stock with the right hand.

9. *Shoulder* — ARMS.

ONE TIME AND TWO MOTIONS.

1602. *First motion.*—Bring the piece to the right shoulder and support it there with the left hand, face to the front; bring the right heel to the side of and on a line with the left; grasp the piece with the right hand, as indicated in the position of *shoulder arms*.

Second motion.—Drop the left hand quickly by the side.

Ready.

ONE TIME AND THREE MOTIONS.

1603. *First motion.*—Raise the piece vertically with the right hand, so that the cock shall be at the height of the hip, at the same time making a half face to the right on the left heel; carry the right foot to the rear, and place it at right angles to the left, the hollow of it opposite to and against the left heel; grasp the piece with the left hand at the lower band.

Second motion.—Bring down the piece with both hands, the barrel upwards, the left thumb extended along the stock, the butt below the right fore-arm, the small of the stock against the body and two inches below the right breast, the muzzle as high as the eye, the left elbow against the side; place at the same time the right thumb on the head of the cock, the other fingers under and against the guard.

Third motion. Cock, and seize the piece at the small of the stock without deranging the position of the butt.

Aim.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1604. Raise the piece with both hands, and support the butt against the right shoulder; the left elbow down, the right as high as the shoulder; incline the head upon the butt, so that the right eye may perceive quickly the notch of the hausse, the front sight, and the object aimed at; the left eye closed, the right thumb extended along the stock, the fore-finger on the trigger.

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1605. When recruits are formed in two ranks to execute the firings, the front rank men will raise a little less the right elbow, in order to facilitate the aim of the rear rank men.

1606. The rear rank men, in aiming, will each carry the right foot about eight inches to the right, and towards the left heel of the man next on the right, inclining the upper part of the body forward.

Fire.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1607. Press the fore-finger against the trigger, fire, without lowering or turning the head, and remain in this position.

1608. Instructors will be careful to observe, when the men fire, that they aim at some distinct object, and that the barrel be so directed that the line of fire, and the line of sight be in the same vertical plane. They will often cause the firing to be executed on ground of different inclinations, in order to accustom the men to fire at objects either above or below them.

Load.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1609. Bring down the piece with both hands; at the same time face to the front and take the position of *load*, as indicated No. 1594. Each rear rank man will bring his right foot by the side of the left.

1610. The men being in this position, the instructor will cause the loading to be continued by the commands and means prescribed No. 1594, and following.

1611. If, after firing, the instructor should not wish the recruits to reload, he will command:

Shoulder — ARMS.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1612. Throw up the piece briskly with the left hand and resume the position of *shoulder arms*; at the same time face to the front, turning on the left heel, and bring the right heel on a line with the left.

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1613. To accustom the recruits to wait for the command *fire*, the instructor, when they are in the position of *aim*, will command :

Recover — ARMS.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1614. At the first part of the command, withdraw the finger from the trigger; at the command *arms*, retake the position of the third motion of *ready*.

1615. The recruits being in the position of the third motion of *ready*, if the instructor should wish to bring them to a shoulder, he will command

Shoulder — ARMS.

ONE TIME AND ONE MOTION.

1616. At the command *shoulder*, place the thumb upon the cock, the fore-finger on the trigger, half-cock,* and seize the small of the stock with the right hand. At the command *arms*, bring up the piece briskly to the right shoulder, and retake the position of shoulder arms.

1617. The recruits being at shoulder arms, when the instructor shall wish to fix bayonets, he will command :

Fix — BAYONET.

ONE TIME AND THREE MOTIONS.

1618. *First motion*.—Grasp the piece, with the left hand, at the height of the shoulder; quit the piece with the right hand, and carry it with the left hand across the body, so that the butt shall be to the left of the body, and within three inches of the ground; seize the piece, with the right hand above the left.

Second motion.—Let the piece slip through the hands to the ground without shock, so that it shall rest against the left thigh; the barrel to the front, inclining to the right, the rammer obliquely to the left and rear; the muzzle three inches from the centre of the breast;

* If the priming attachment is used, tear off the priming tape or paper close to the orifice from whence it appears, and let the hammer gently down upon the cone.

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quit the piece with the left hand, and seize it again with that hand near the muzzle; and carry the right hand to the bayonet, and seize it by the socket and shank, so that the lower (now upper) end of the socket shall extend about an inch above the heel of the palm.

Third motion.—Draw the bayonet from the scabbard, and fix it on the extremity of the barrel; seize the piece with the left hand, the arm extended, and place the little finger of the right hand upon the head of the rammer.

Shoulder — ARMS.

ONE TIME AND THREE MOTIONS.

1619. *First motion.*—Raise the piece with the left hand till the hand is as high as the eye, the left arm against the piece, and seize the piece with the right hand at the small of the stock.

Second motion.—Carry the piece vertically across the body, and place it against the right shoulder; change the position of the right hand and seize the swell of the stock, the thumb and fore-finger embracing the guard, the right arm nearly extended.

Third motion.—Drop briskly the left hand by the side.

Charge — BAYONET.

ONE TIME AND TWO MOTIONS.

1620. *First motion.*—Raise the piece slightly with the right hand, and make a half face to the right on the left heel; place the hollow of the right foot opposite to and three inches from the left heel, the feet square; seize the piece at the same time with the left hand, a little above the lower band.

Second motion.—Bring down the piece with both hands, the barrel uppermost, the left elbow against the body; seize the small of the stock, at the same time, with the right hand, which will be supported against the hip; the point of the bayonet as high as the eye.

Shoulder — ARMS.

ONE TIME AND TWO MOTIONS.

1621. *First motion.*—Throw up the piece briskly with the left hand in facing to the front; place it against the right shoulder, the rammer