

**OTS 206 DRILL  
LESSON PLAN 5**

**Basic Marching Drill**

**2 periods**

**Introduction**

This is a basic introduction to marching drill that will be required for regular parade training.

**Marching in Quick Time – “Squad, Quick – MARCH”**

a) purpose – marching is the method that we use for moving from one place to another

**This order is broken into 3 movements**

b) 1<sup>st</sup> Movement

- step forward with the left foot approximately 35 cm;
- swing the right arm straight forward so that the hand is in line with the waist;
- swing the left arm straight back so that the hand is in line with the waist;
- keep the head and eyes to the front; and
- keep the arms straight – NO BENDS IN THE ELBOWS!

c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Movement

- take a 75 cm pace with the right foot;
- swing the right arm ball the way back;
- swing the left arm straight forward; and
- keep all else the same.

d) 3<sup>rd</sup> Movement

- continue marching forward by taking a 75 cm pace with the left foot; and
- continue swinging arms as for the first 2 movements.

e) Timing – when the 3 movements are combined, DO NOT observe the standard pause in between. The timing for this movement is “left...right...left”.

**Halting from the Quick March – “Squad – HALT” (called on the left foot)**

a) purpose – used for the purpose of stopping an individual or division while marching

This order is broken into 3 movements

b) 1<sup>st</sup> Movement – the “HALT” is called when the left foot touches the deck

- take a normal marching pace (75 cm) with the right foot
- swing the left arm forward and right arm back as in Marching in Quick Time

c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Movement

- take a 35 cm pace with the left foot
- swing the right arm forward and the left arm back

d) 3<sup>rd</sup> Movement

- bend the right knee and straighten it in double time
- cut both arms to the side and assume the position of attention

e) Timing – when the 3 movements are combined, DO NOT observe the standard pause in between. The timing for this movement is “one...one...two”.

**Mark Time from the Quick March – “Squad, Mark – TIME”** (called on the right foot)

a) purpose – this order stops the division temporarily (not more than a few seconds) and is primarily used during parades.

This order is broken into 3 movements

b) 1<sup>st</sup> Movement – the “Mark Time” is called when the right foot touches the deck.

- take a 35 cm pace with the left foot
- swing the right arm forward and the left arm back

c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Movement

- keep the right leg straight and bring it into the left leg
- cut the arms into the side as in the position of attention
- raise the left foot 15 cm off the deck by bending the left leg and letting the lower leg hang free
- bring the left leg down to the position of attention

d) 3<sup>rd</sup> Movement

- repeat the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement with the right leg
- continue marching on the spot
- maintain the same cadence (timing) as for marching

e) Timing - when the 3 movements are combined, DO NOT observe the standard pause in between. The timing for this movement is “check...in...left...right...left”.

**Forward from Mark Time – “Squad, For – WARD”** (called on the left foot)

a) purpose – to commence marching from the “Mark Time”

This order is broken into 2 movements

b) 1<sup>st</sup> Movement

- take one more “Mark Time” pace with the right foot

c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Movement

- shoot the left foot forward and take a 35 cm pace
- continue marching and swinging arms

d) Timing – when the two movements are combined, the timing is “check...left...right...left”

**Conclusion**

Marching in a division is a difficult adjustment. Pay attention to other members as they swing their arms. DON'T LOOK AT YOUR FEET! Keep your head up. The timing will eventually come around.