

DRILL INSTRUCTION CARDS PACKAGE

Instructions For The *Sword Manual*

CARDS SM-1 THRU SM-14(a)

Adapted from the MCRD, Parris Island Drill Manual, and Marine Corps Drill and Ceremony Manual (MCO) P5060.20

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SM-1

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

- When in formation, officers draw and return swords without command when the commander of their unit does.
- Unless they are members of the commander's staff, other unit officers execute all other movements of the sword manual on the commander's command to the entire unit.
- After these orders are carried out, the commander gives separate commands to his staff which he and his staff execute together.
- The sword will be drawn by cadet LTJG's and above whenever the unit or drill team is bearing rifles, *except* when: at ease, at rest, route step, at ease march or inspecting cadets.
- A unit commander, after being inspected, will return sword prior to accompanying the inspecting party, except during inspection of an honor guard.
- The sword *will always be in the scabbard when not in formation.*
- Carry sword is assumed when:
 1. Giving commands
 2. Changing positions in formation at quick time
 3. Addressing or being addressed by a senior
 4. The preparatory command for quick time has been given
 5. Marching at quick time
 6. Any manual of arms movement has been ordered except parade rest, at ease, rest, present arms, or eyes right (left).

SM-1(a)

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

- When in formation with personnel to your front, at normal distance or less (organizational staff included), remain at carry sword except during rest or at ease.
- Present sword is assumed when:
 1. Saluting with the sword
 2. The unit is presented to the colors or any person, or when the "National Anthem", "To the Colors", "Retreat", "Hail to the Chief", memorial "Taps", or other musical honors to flag or general officers are played.
 3. Executing eyes right (left) while marching past a reviewing officer or stand. If in the interior or rear of a formation, remain at carry sword.
- When marching with the sword at carry, both arms should swing 6 inches to the front and 3 inches to the rear.
 - **Do not hold the scabbard or sling.**
 - The only exception to this is during eyes right (left) while on the march, the right arm is held straight at the side and the sword is kept from moving

SM-2

DRAW SWORD TO CARRY SWORD

- The command to draw the sword is **“Draw, SWORD”**.
- On the preparatory command, **“Draw”**, do all of the following:
 1. Grip the scabbard just below the upper brass mounting ring with the left hand.
 2. Turn the scabbard clockwise about 180 degrees.
 3. Tilt the scabbard forward to form an angle of 45 degrees with the deck.
 4. Grasp the sword grip with the right hand.
 5. Pull the sword about six (6) inches out of the scabbard.
 - Your right forearm should now be parallel to the deck.
 - Your left hand holds the scabbard against your side.
- On the command of execution, **“SWORD”**:
 1. Draw the sword smartly, raising and extending your right arm to its full extent directly in front at an angle of about 45 degrees.
 - The sword is in a straight line with the arm
 - The true (sharp) edge of the blade should be down.
 2. AT THE SAME TIME, lower the left hand to your side.
- PAUSE FOR ONE COUNT.

SM-3

PRESENT SWORD FROM CARRY OR ORDER SWORD

- The command to present sword is, **“Present, SWORD_(ARMS)”**
- It may be given only while halted at order sword or carry sword.
- It is executed in two counts.
- On the preparatory command, **“Present”**, raise the right hand to the level of and 6 inches in front of the neck.
 - Keep the thumb on the left side of the grip.
 - The wrist is slightly bent, inner forearm against the body.
 - The blade should tilt forward at a 30 degree angle from vertical.
- On the command of execution **“SWORD (ARMS)”**, bring the point down smartly, without whipping, to a position 3 inches above the deck and slightly right of the right foot.
 - Straighten the arm so that the knuckle bow is against the trouser seam
 - The blade is inclined down and to the front with the true edge (sharp edge) to the left.
 - The thumb remains on the left side of the grip.

SM-2(a)

DRAW SWORD TO CARRY SWORD (Con't.)

3. Bring the false edge (back edge) of the blade against the shoulder seam
 - The blade is vertical, knuckle bow to the front, back of grip to the rear.
 - The Right arm is nearly extended
 - The thumb and forefinger are embracing the lower part of the grip
 - Thumb along the trouser seam
 - Remaining Fingers joined behind the end of the Hilt as if holding a pen or pencil.
- You are now at the position of carry sword.

SM-3(a)

PRESENT SWORD FROM CARRY OR ORDER SWORD (Con't.)

- When the sword is at carry or order sword, and it becomes necessary to salute without command, execute present sword. After the salute has been returned, come to order sword (then to carry sword if walking).

ORDER SWORD FROM PRESENT SWORD

- The command to come to order sword is “**Order, “SWORD (ARMS)”**”.
- The movement is executed in one count.
- On the command of execution “**SWORD (ARMS)”** turn the true edge (sharp edge) of the blade down. In this position:
 - the right arm hangs naturally with the thumb along the trouser seam.
 - The blade slants down to the front with the point 3 inches from the deck.

ORDER SWORD FROM EYES RIGHT (LEFT)

(Executed while at the halt.)

- The command is “**Ready, FRONT”**”.
- It is executed in one count.
- On the command of execution, “**FRONT”**, turn the true edge (sharp edge) of the sword blade down.
- **AT THE SAME TIME**, turn the head and eyes smartly to the front.

EYES RIGHT (LEFT) FROM CARRY OR ORDER SWORD

- The command to execute a sword salute is “**Eyes, RIGHT (LEFT)”**”.
- It may be given only while halted at order sword, or when marching at carry sword.
- It is executed in two counts.

Eyes right (left) while halted

- On the preparatory command “**Eyes”**, raise the right hand to the level of 6 inches in front of the neck.
 - Keep the thumb on the left side of the grip.
 - The wrist is slightly bent, inner forearm against the body.
 - The blade should tilt forward at a 30 degree angle from vertical.
- On the command of execution “**RIGHT” (ARMS)**, bring the point down smartly, without whipping, to a position 3 inches above the deck and slightly right of the right foot.
 - Straighten the arm so that the knuckle bow is against the trouser seam
 - The blade is inclined down and to the front with the true edge (sharp edge) to the left.
 - The thumb remains on the left side of the grip.
 - At the same time, turn the head and eyes 45 degrees to the right (left).
 - If in the extreme right (left) file, continue looking straight ahead.

EYES RIGHT (LEFT) WHILE MARCHING

(Note: Explanation is given for *Eyes Right* only. To execute *Eyes Left while marching*, use the same sequence substituting the words *left* for *right*, and *right* for *left*)

- The command is “**Eyes, RIGHT”**”
- The preparatory command “**Eyes”** is given as the right foot strikes the deck.

On the next step (as the left foot strikes the deck), raise the right hand to the level of, and six inches

 - Keep the thumb on the left side of the grip
 - The wrist is slightly bent
 - The inner forearm is against the body
 - The blade is inclined forward at an angle of 30 Degrees from vertical.

(Note: This movement is the same as that made on the preparatory command of “**Present”**)

 - The left arm continues to swing naturally.
- The command of execution “**RIGHT”** is given as the right foot next strikes the deck.
- On the next step (with the left foot), bring the point of the sword down smartly, without whipping. To a position three inches above the deck and *slightly* to the right of the right foot.

SM-7(a)

EYES RIGHT (LEFT) WHILE MARCHING (Con't)

- Straighten the right arm so that the knuckle bow is resting near, *but not against* the trouser seam.
 - The blade is slanted down and to the front with the true edge (sharp edge) to the left.
 - The thumb remains on the left side of the grip
- At the *same time* the right arm is straightened, Turn the head and eyes 45 degrees to the right. (If in the extreme right file, continue looking straight ahead.)
- The right arm does not swing.
- The left arm continues to swing naturally.

SM-8

CARRY SWORD FROM EYES RIGHT (LEFT) (Executed when on the march)

- The command is **“Ready, FRONT”**.
- Execution is begun on the preparatory command.
- The preparatory command **“Ready”**, is given as the left foot strikes the deck.
 - On the next step (as the right foot strikes the deck), turn the true edge (sharp edge) of the sword blade down.
 - The command of execution **“FRONT”** is given as the left foot next strikes the deck
- On the next step (as the right foot strikes the deck), raise the sword to carry.
- At the *same time* the sword is raised, turn the head and eyes to the front.
- You may use the following ditty to help remember the movements of the sword when executing eyes right and ready front while marching:

“Eyes” (UP), “Right” (DOWN)
(right Foot) (left Foot) (right Foot) (left Foot)

“Ready” (DOWN), “Front” (UP)
(left Foot) (right Foot) (left Foot) (right Foot)

SM-9

PARADE REST FROM ORDER SWORD

- The command is “Parade, “REST”.
- This command is normally given only from order sword, in which case it is executed in one count.
- If given when at another position of the manual, come to order sword on the preparatory command, “Parade”.
- On the command of execution “REST”, move the left foot smartly 12 inches to the left.
- At the same time, lower the point of the Sword to the deck, and place the left hand behind you, just below the belt.

SM-10

ORDER SWORD FROM PARADE REST

- The command is **“Platoon (Company or Detail), ATTENTION”**.
- This movement is executed in one count.
- On **“ATTENTION”**, bring the left heel smartly against the right and return the left hand back to the side as in the position of attention.
- Raise the sword so the point of the blade is 3 inches off the deck.

SM-11

AT EASE FROM ANY POSITION OF THE SWORD

- The command is “**AT EASE**”.
- This movement is executed in one count.
- It may be given from any position of the sword.
- On the command, “**AT EASE**”, go to order sword if not already at that position.
- Then, move your left foot smartly 12 inches to the left of your right foot, and lower the point of the sword to the deck.
- Rest your weight evenly on both feet with your legs straight.
- At the same time, place your left hand behind you.
- Keep your fingers extended and joined with your palm flat and facing the rear.
- You may relax and, except for your right foot and sword point, move about.
- Do not talk.

SM-13

RETURN TO ATTENTION FROM REST

- The command is The command is “**Platoon (Company, Detail, etc.), ATTENTION**”.
- Execution is begun on the preparatory command.
- On the preparatory command “**Platoon (Company, Detail, etc.)**”, go to parade rest.
- On the command of execution, “**ATTENTION**”, bring the left heel smartly against the right and the left hand to the side as in the Position of attention.
 - Raise the blade so that the point is 3 inches off the deck.

SM-12

REST FROM ANY POSITION OF THE SWORD

- The command is “**REST**”.
- This movement is executed in one count
- It may be given from any position of the sword.
- On the command, “**REST**”, go to order sword if not already at that position.
- Then, move your left foot smartly 12 inches to the left of your right foot, and lower the point of the sword to the deck.
- Rest your weight evenly on both feet with your legs straight.
- At the same time, place your left hand behind you.
- Keep your fingers extended and joined with your palm flat and facing the rear.
- You may relax and, except for your right foot and sword point, move about.
- You may talk.

SM-14

RETURN SWORD FROM ORDER OR CARRY SWORD

- The command is “**Return, SWORD**”.
- Execution is begun on the preparatory command.
- On the preparatory command, “**Return**”:
 - Raise the right hand to a position 6 inches in front of the Neck as in the first position of present sword.
 - Keep the thumb on the left side of the grip.
 - Keep the wrist straight and the elbow against the body.
 - The blade should tilt forward at a 30 degree angle.
- At the same time, grasp the scabbard with the left hand just above the upper brass ring mounting.
 - Tilt the scabbard forward and turn it clockwise 180 degrees.
 - The scabbard should form a 45 degree angle with the deck.
- Then, lower the sword point to a position just above the opening of the scabbard.
- Look down at the opening and guide the point into the opening with the left thumb and forefinger until the right wrist and forearm are parallel to the deck.
- Then release the scabbard with the left hand and re-grasp it below the upper brass mounting ring, and
- At the same time Raise the head back to attention.
- The left hand continues to hold the scabbard against the side.

**RETURN SWORD FROM ORDER OR
CARRY SWORD (Con't.)**

- On the command of execution, “**SWORD**”, push smartly down on the sword and release the hand grip so it will slide all the way into the scabbard.
- Then, bring the right hand smartly back to the right side.
- Turn the scabbard 180 degrees counterclockwise, and release the scabbard with the left hand and assume the position of attention.