



# California Cadet Corps Curriculum on Military Basics



**“Individual Drill with sharpness,  
precision and snap”**

M3/A: Individual Drill with Weapons



# Individual Drill with Weapons

## Suggested Supplies:

Replica (3-4 pound) rifles or  
Props that can substitute for drill rifles



# Individual Drill With Weapons Agenda

B1. Basic Procedures

B2. Order Arms

B3. Rest Positions

B4. Port Arms

B5. Present Arms

B6. Inspection Arms

B7. Right Shoulder Arms

B8. Left Shoulder Arms

B9. Changing Positions



# BASIC PROCEDURES

1. Identify the basic rules that govern the Manual of Arms.



# Basic Procedures

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*
1. Identify the basic rules that govern the Manual of Arms.
  2. Identify the parts of a rifle used in the Manual of Arms.

## Essential Question:

**When can you execute facing movements?**



# Basic Rules Governing the Manual of Arms

## References:

- TC 3-21.5. Drill and Ceremonies (US Army).  
<https://cacadets.org/Regulations> Chapter 5 and Appendix D
- Fort Jackson Army Individual Drill Videos: <https://vimeo.com/channels/524805>

## *Manual of Arms*

*noun*

**(military) a prescribed drill in handling a rifle**

(vocabulary.com, n.d.)



# Basic Rules Governing the Manual of Arms

- The Army Drill and Ceremonies Manual, [TC3-21.5](#), (Chap. 5) covers the Manual of Arms for M-16 series rifle
  - Other weapon types covered in Appendices B – F
- CACC usually uses replicas of the M1903 Springfield, M1 Rifle
- Standards set in TC3-21.5, Appendix D
  - Some basic rules are taken from TC3-21.5, Chp. 5



# Basic Rules Governing the Manual of Arms

- At the halt, all movements are initiated from Order Arms or Sling Arms, which are the *Positions of Attention* with the rifle.
- All precision movements are executed in quick time cadence.
- The command ***Port, ARMS*** must be given before the command for *Double Time*.





# Basic Rules Governing the Manual of Arms

- Facings, alignments, and short-distance marching movements are executed at *Order Arms* or *Sling Arms*.
  - When these movements are commanded while at *Order Arms*, the Cadet automatically raises the rifle about one inch (1") off the ground on the command of execution.
  - When the movement has been completed, the Cadet automatically returns the rifle to *Order Arms*.



# Basic Rules (continued)

- Facing movements are executed from *Order Arms* or *Sling Arms*.
  - When executing *Right, Face* and *Forward, March*, the facing movement is executed before the command for the manual of arms.
  - After a marching movement has been completed, *Order, Arms* or *Sling, Arms* is commanded before the command for the facing movement.

**\*You cannot execute facing movements when the rifle is at any position other than *order arms* or *sling arms*\***



# Basic Rules (continued)

- ***Ready, Port, ARMS*** must be commanded following Inspection Arms and before any other movements can be commanded.
- *Port Arms* is the key position assumed in most manual of arms movements from one position to another except *Right Shoulder Arms* from *Order Arms* and *Order Arms* from *Right Shoulder Arms*.
- Manual of arms movements are a combination of the *Position of Attention* and the procedures for the prescribed movement.
- Most manual of arms movements are executed with the head, eyes, and body stationary as in the *Position of Attention*.



# PARTS OF THE RIFLE

2. Identify the parts of a rifle used in the Manual of Arms.



# Basic Procedures

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*
1. Identify the basic rules that govern the Manual of Arms.
  2. Identify the parts of a rifle used in the Manual of Arms.

## Essential Question:

**What are the 10 parts of a rifle you should know?**



# Parts of the Rifle



The parts of the M1903 or similar rifle that you should know are:

Butt	Stock
Sling	Bolt Handle
Balance	Receiver Group
Handguards	Stacking Swivel
Front Sight	Muzzle



# Check on Learning

1. All movements are initiated from \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
2. T/F? The command **Port, ARMS** must be given before the command for *Double Time*.
3. When a Cadet has completed a movement, the Cadet does what?
4. Most manual of arms movements are executed with the head, eyes, and body \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A Cadet cannot execute facing movements when the rifle is at any position other than \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.



# Check on Learning

**Practicum:** If you have access to a drill rifle, use it in the identification of the 10 rifle parts you should know. Otherwise, use the picture below for this exercise.

Name the parts of the rifle:







# ORDER ARMS

3. Properly execute *Order Arms* with a rifle.



# Order Arms

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

3. Properly execute *Order Arms* with a rifle.

## Essential Question:

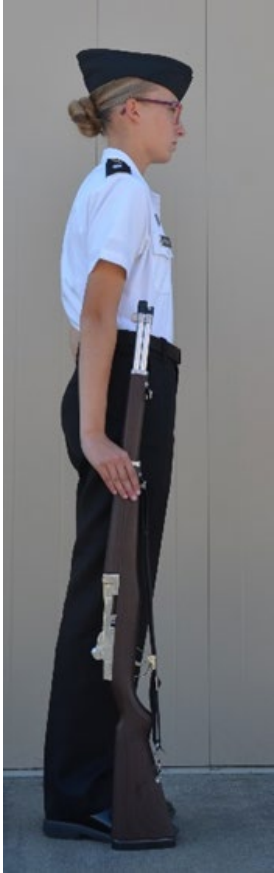
**What position does a Cadet assume with the command of Order Arms ?**



# Order Arms

Assume *Order Arms* on the command **FALL IN** or from *Parade Rest* on the command of execution **ATTENTION**.

- At *Order Arms*, maintain the *Position of Attention* with the rifle.
  - Place the butt of the rifle on the marching surface with sights to the rear and touching the right foot.
  - Secure the rifle with the right hand in a “U” formed by the fingers and thumb.
  - Keep the right arm as in the *Position of Attention* and hold the rifle with the right thumb and fingers.
  - Keep the right hand and arm behind the rifle.





# Check on Learning

1. Assume \_\_\_\_\_ on the command FALL In.
2. T/F - The butt of the rifle is placed on the marching surface and touching the left foot?
3. Keep the \_\_\_\_\_ and arm behind the rifle



# Practicum

In the classroom, gym, or outside:

- Practice Order of Arms with a replica rifle or prop



# REST POSITIONS

4. Properly execute the *Rest Positions* with a rifle.



# Rest Positions with a Rifle

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

4. Properly execute the *Rest Positions* with a rifle.

## Essential Question:

**How are the rifle rest positions executed?**

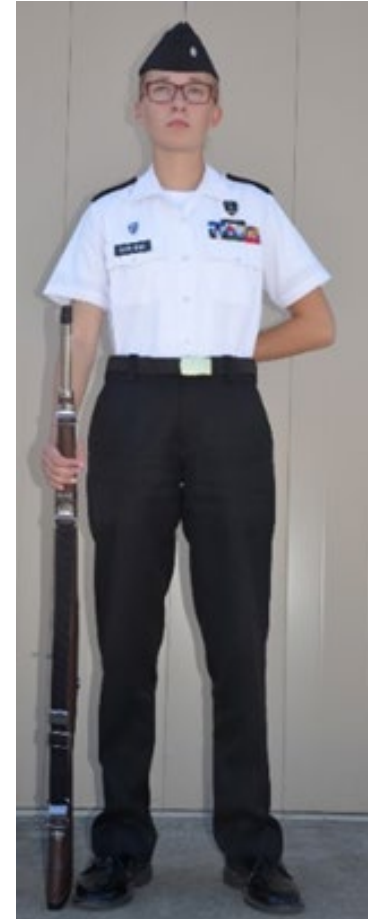
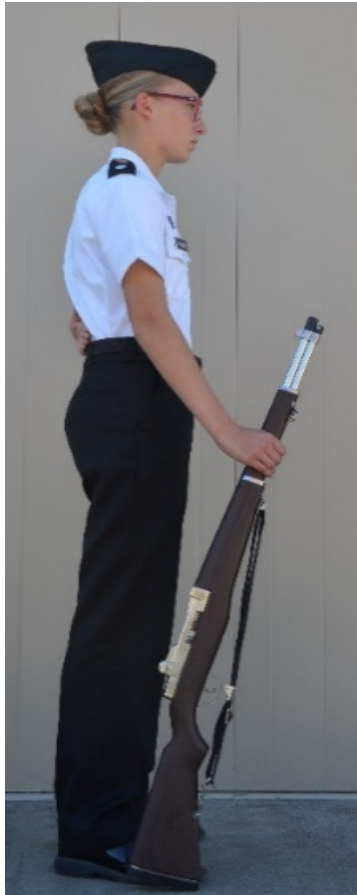




# Rest Positions

The rifle *Rest* positions are commanded and executed the same as individual drill with the following additions:

- On the command of execution **REST** of *Parade*, **REST**, thrust the muzzle forward keeping the toe of the butt on line with the front of the right foot and the right arm straight.
  - Execute *Stand at Ease* with the rifle in the same manner as *Parade Rest*.
- On the command **AT EASE** or **REST**, keep the butt of the rifle in place as in *Parade Rest*.







# Check on Learning

1. When executing *Stand at Ease* with the rifle where should you turn your head and eyes?
2. T/F – On the command of **REST** of *Parade*, **REST** your arm should be bent.
3. On the command **AT EASE** or **REST**, does the butt of the rifle remain in place as in *Parade Rest* or *move forward*?



# Practicum

In the classroom, gym, or outside:

- Practice Rest Positions with a replica rifle or prop



# PORT ARMS

5. Properly execute *Port Arms* with a rifle.



# Port Arms with a Rifle

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

5. Properly execute *Port Arms* with a rifle.

## Essential Questions:

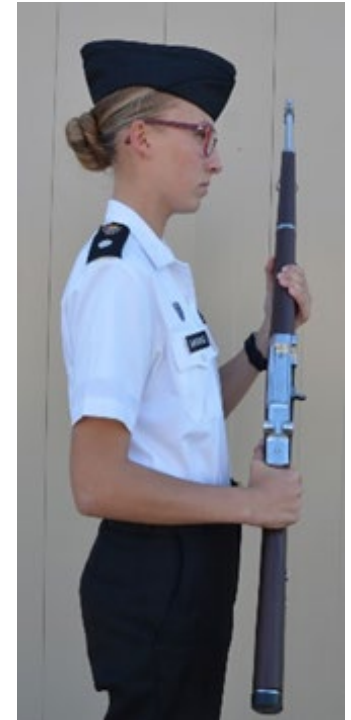
**What count is the *Port Arms* movement?**



# Port Arms

*Port Arms* from *Order Arms* is a two-count movement. The command is **Port, ARMS.**

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, grasp the rifle with the right hand and raise the rifle diagonally across the body, keeping the right elbow down alongside the rifle (without strain).
- With the left hand, simultaneously grasp the rifle at the balance (grasping the wood stock right above the receiver) so that the rifle is about 4 inches (a fist) from the body.
- On count two, grasp the rifle at the small of the stock with the right hand. Hold the rifle diagonally across the body, about 4 inches from the body, the right forearm horizontal, and the elbows close to the sides.





# Order Arms from Port Arms

*Order Arms* from *Port Arms* is executed in three counts. The command is ***Order, ARMS.***

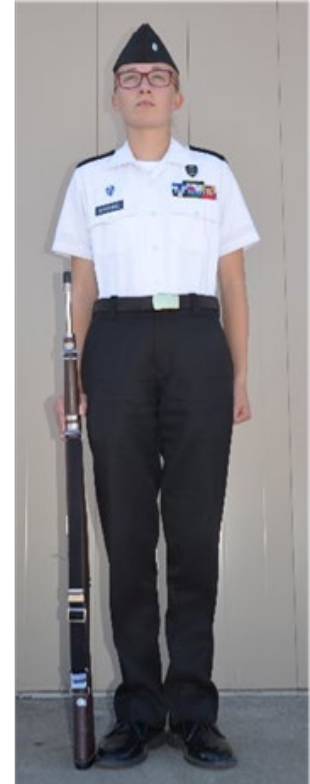
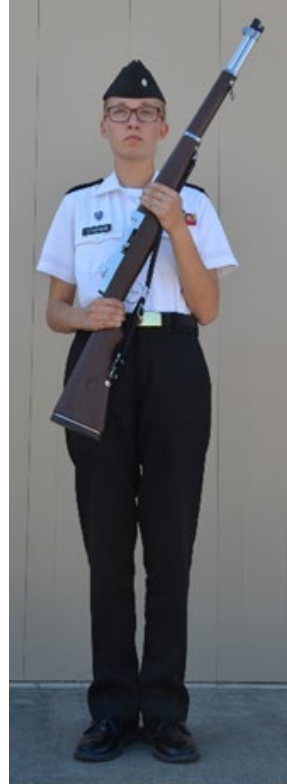
- On the command of execution **ARMS**, move the right hand up and across the body and firmly grasp the rifle on the upper stock (handguard) without moving the rifle, and keep the right elbow aligned alongside the rifle.
- On count two, move the left hand from the balance and lower the rifle to the right side until it is about one inch (1") from the marching surface next to the right foot.

*(CONTINUED ON NEXT SLIDE)*



# Order Arms from Port Arms

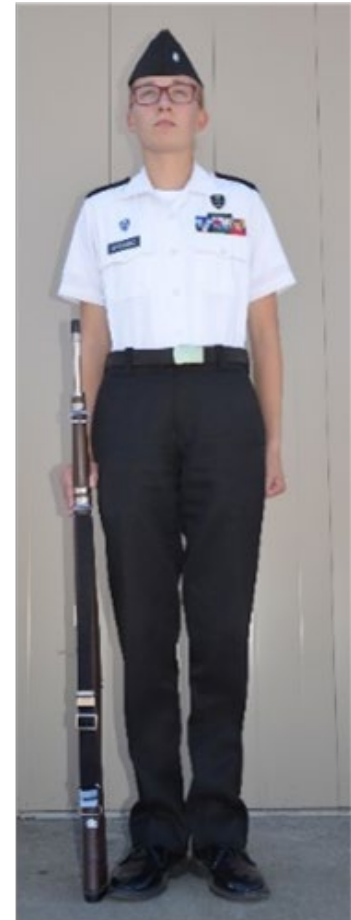
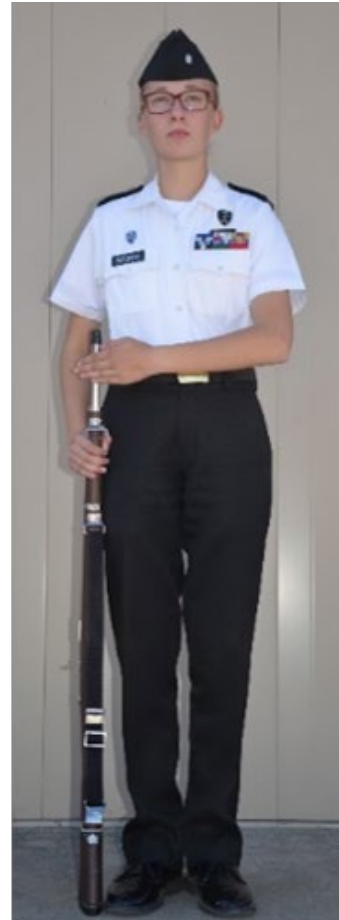
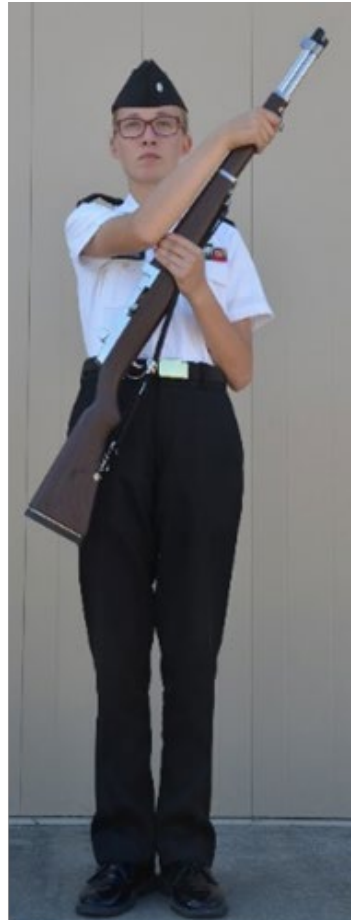
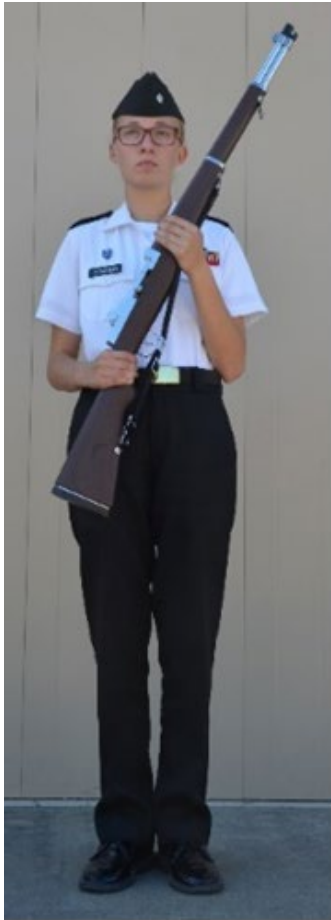
- Guide the rifle to the side by placing the Order Arms from Port Arms index finger of the left hand at the top of the rifle near the stacking swivel, fingers and thumb extended and joined, palm to the rear.
- On count three, move the left hand sharply to the left side, gently lower the rifle to the ground next to the right foot, and resume the position of *Order Arms*.







# Order Arms from Port Arms







# Check on Learning

1. *Order Arms* from *Port Arms* is a \_\_\_\_\_ count move.
2. The command of execution for *Port Arms* is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. T/F – On count three, the rifle should be lowered to the ground next to the left foot.



# Practicum

In the classroom, gym, or outside:

- Practice *Port Arms* and *Order Arms* with a replica rifle or prop



# PRESENT ARMS

6. Properly execute *Present Arms* with a rifle.



# Present Arms with a Rifle

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

6. Properly execute *Present Arms* with a rifle.

## Essential Question:

**What is the correct final position of the rifle when Presenting Arms?**



# Present Arms

*Present Arms* from *Order Arms* is a three-count movement. The command is ***Present, ARMS.***



- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *Port Arms* in two counts.
- On count three, twist the rifle with the right hand so that the sights are to the rear, and move the rifle to a vertical position about four inches (4") in front of and centered on the body.
- Lower the rifle until the left forearm is horizontal.
  - Keep the elbows in at the sides.
- Keep the left thumb wrapped around the rifle and touching the right side of the handguard right above the receiver.

**NOTE:** Incline the barrel slightly backward to ensure that the weapon is vertical.



# *Order Arms from Present Arms*

*Order Arms from Present Arms* is a four-count movement. The command is ***Order, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, return the rifle to *Port Arms*.
- Counts two, three, and four are the same as *Order Arms from Port Arms*.



# Additional Notes

- *Port Arms* is assumed en route to or from *Present Arms* when going to or from *Right Shoulder* or *Left Shoulder Arms*. *Present Arms* from or to *Port Arms* is a one-count movement.
- When rendering reports or courtesy to an individual from *Order Arms*:
  - Execute *Present Arms* and turn the head and eyes toward the individual addressed.
  - *Order Arms* is executed automatically upon acknowledgment of the *Salute*.



# Check on Learning

1. *What is the command of execution for the movement Order Arms from Present Arms?*
2. T/F – *Port Arms* is assumed en route to or from *Present Arms* when going to *Right Shoulder Arms*.
3. T/F - When rendering reports or courtesy to an individual from *Order Arms*, execute *Present Arms* and turn the head and eyes toward the individual addressed.





# Practicum

In the classroom, gym, or outside:

- Practice *Present Arms* with a replica rifle or prop



# INSPECTION ARMS

7. Properly execute *Inspection Arms* (if you have a M1903 Rifle).



# Inspection Arms with a Rifle

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

1. Properly execute *Inspection Arms* (if you have a M1903 Rifle).

## Essential Question:

**Should Cadets use replica rifles for inspection?**



# Replica Rifles vs Demilitarized Rifles

- Many replica rifles used in the CA Cadet Corps do not have functioning bolts
  - Those that do are often cheap and easily broken
- It is not recommended that Cadets practice Inspection Arms unless they have access to actual (demilitarized) rifles.
- In that case, follow the instructions in [TC 3-21.5](#), Appendix D.



# Check on Learning



1. Are replica rifles mandatory for inspection practice?
2. T/F - Cadets should not practice Inspection Arms with demilitarized rifles.



# RIGHT SHOULDER ARMS

8. Properly execute *Right Shoulder Arms* with a rifle.



# Right Shoulder Arms

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

*8. Properly execute **Right Shoulder Arms** with a rifle.*

## Essential Question:

**How do the hands move in the movement *Right Shoulder, Arms*?**





# Right Shoulder Arms

*Right Shoulder Arms* from *Order Arms* is a four-count movement. The command is ***Right Shoulder, ARMS.***

- Execute count one, the command of execution **ARMS.**
- On count two, release the grasp of the right hand and grasp the heel of the butt between the first two fingers with the thumb and forefinger touching.

(NOTE: Do NOT put the right hand on the small of the stock as in *Port Arms*. Move the right hand directly from the handguard to the butt of the rifle.)







# Right Shoulder Arms (continued)

- On count three (without moving the head), release the grasp of the left hand, twist the rifle so that the sights are up, and place the weapon onto the right shoulder, moving the left hand to the small of the stock to guide the rifle to the shoulder.
- Keep the fingers and thumb (left hand) extended and joined with the palm turned toward the body.
- Keep the left elbow down, and keep the right forearm horizontal (parallel to the ground) with the right upper arm touching the body and elbow on line with the back.
- On count four, sharply move the left hand back to the left side as in the *Position of Attention*.

**\*\*The next slide shows *Right Shoulder Arms* from *Order Arms*\*\***



# Right Shoulder Arms from Order Arms

***Note: Left elbow should be down. Photo shows incorrect position of elbow.***





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# Holding the Butt of the Rifle



NOTE: It is very specific how one is to hold the butt of the rifle at Right and Left Shoulder Arms. Touch the tip of the index finger to the tip of the thumb, forming an oblong. The thumb and index finger go on the front of the rifle. The other three fingers go on the bottom of the rifle butt.



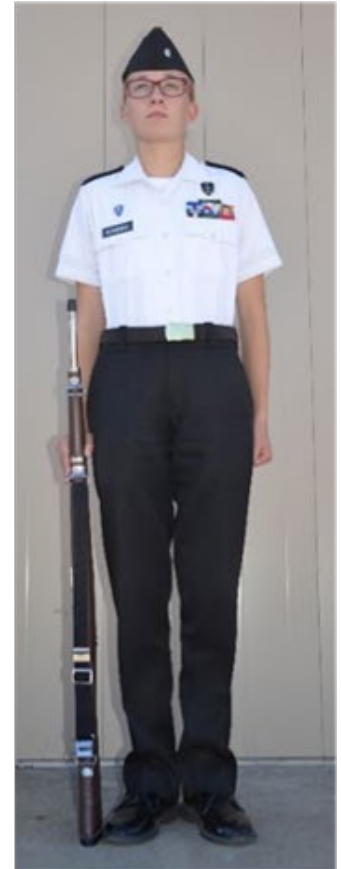
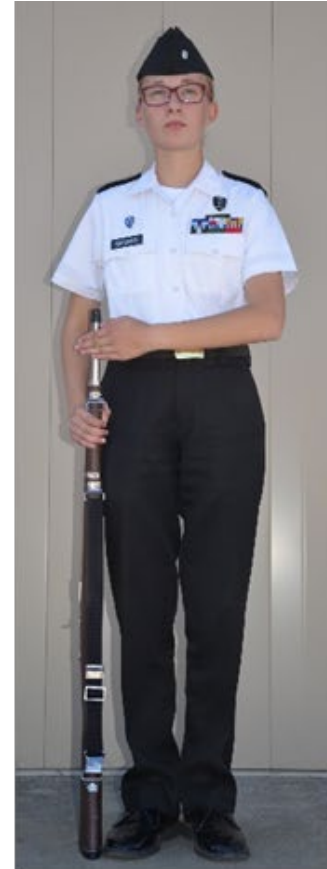
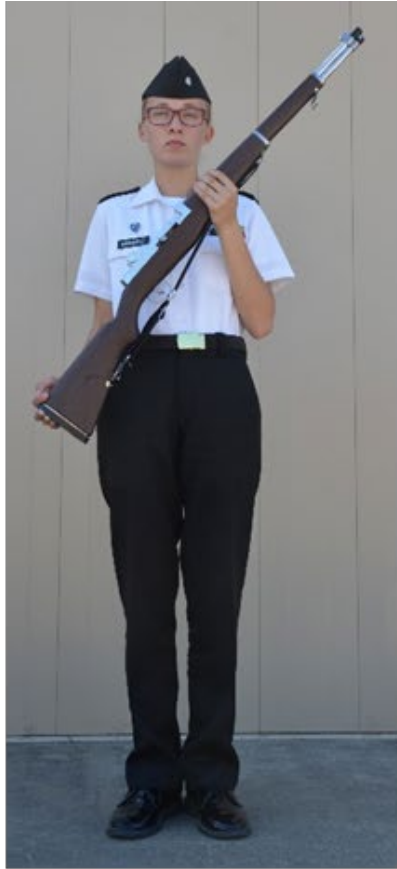
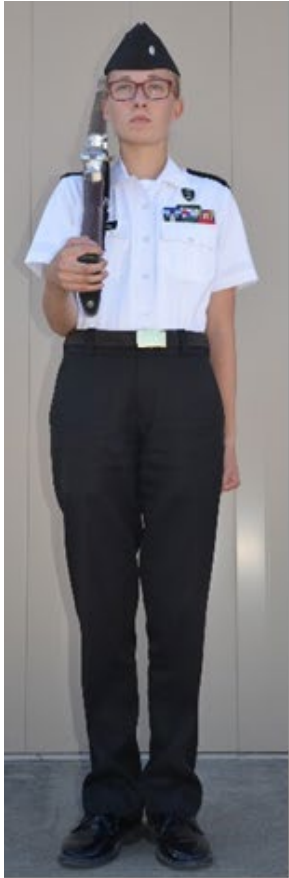
# *Order Arms from Right Shoulder Arms*

*Order Arms from Right Shoulder Arms* is a four-count movement. The command is ***Order, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, without moving the head and without changing the grasp of the right hand, press down quickly and firmly on the butt of the rifle with the right hand and twist the weapon (with the sights up), guiding it diagonally across the body and about four inches (4") from the waist.
- Grasp the rifle with the left hand at the balance.
- On count two, move the right hand up and across the body and firmly grasp the rifle just forward of the lower band without moving the rifle; keep the right elbow down without strain.
- Counts three and four are the same as from *Port Arms* to *Order Arms*.



# Order Arms from *Right Shoulder Arms*





# Check on Learning

1. What is the command of execution in *Right Shoulder, Arms*?
2. T/F - On count two, the Cadet releases the grasp of the right hand and grasps the heel of the butt between the first two fingers with the thumb and forefinger touching.
3. On count three, release the grasp of the \_\_\_\_\_ hand, twist the rifle so that the sights are up, and place the weapon onto the right shoulder.



# Practicum

In the classroom, gym, or outside:

- Practice *Right Shoulder Arms* with a replica rifle or prop
  - Ensure the butt of the rifle is being held correctly.



# LEFT SHOULDER ARMS

9. Properly execute *Left Shoulder Arms* with a rifle.





# Left Shoulder Arms

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

9. Properly execute *Left Shoulder Arms* with a rifle.

## Essential Question:

**What is the placement of the left arm at the end of the *Left Shoulder Arms* movement?**



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# Left Shoulder Arms

*Left Shoulder Arms* from *Order Arms* is a four-count movement. The command is ***Left Shoulder, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *Port Arms* in two counts.
- On count three, release the grasp of the left hand and (without moving the head) place the rifle on the left shoulder with the right hand (with the sights up), keeping the right elbow down.



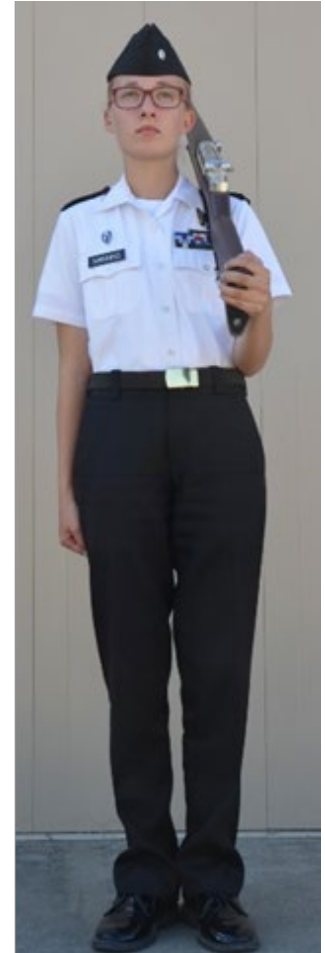
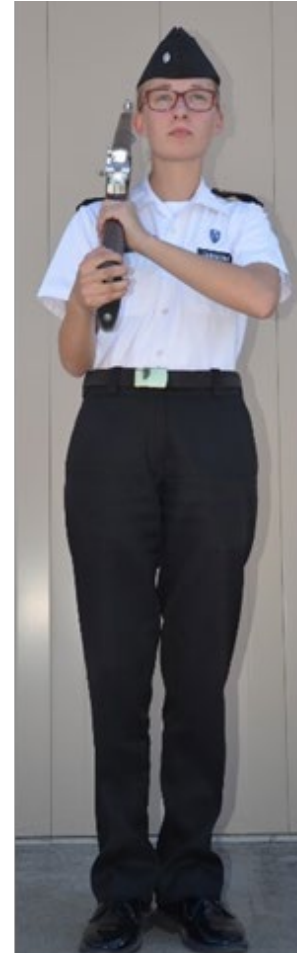
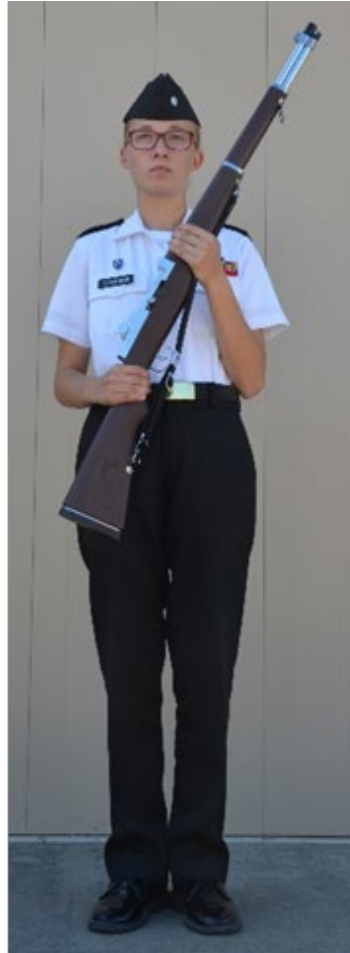


# Left Shoulder Arms (continued)

- At the same time, grasp the rifle with the left hand with the heel of the butt between the first two fingers and with the thumb and forefinger touching.
- The left forearm is horizontal (parallel to the ground), and the left upper arm is against the side and on line with the back.
- On count four, move the right hand sharply to the right side as in the *Position of Attention*.



# *Left Shoulder Arms from Order Arms*





# *Order Arms from Left Shoulder Arms*

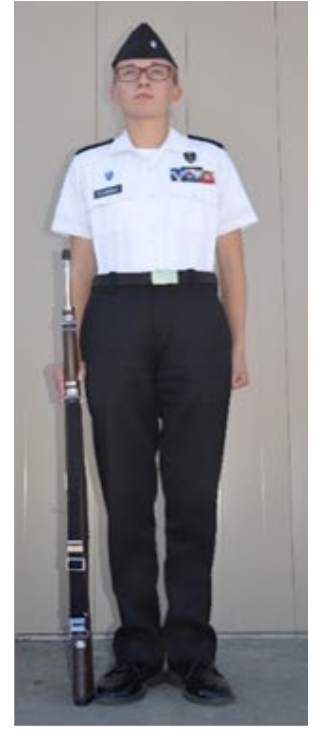
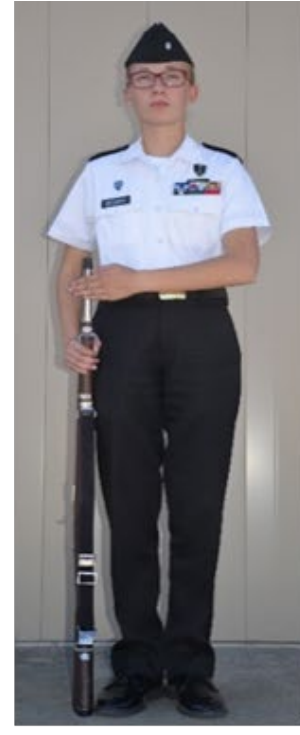
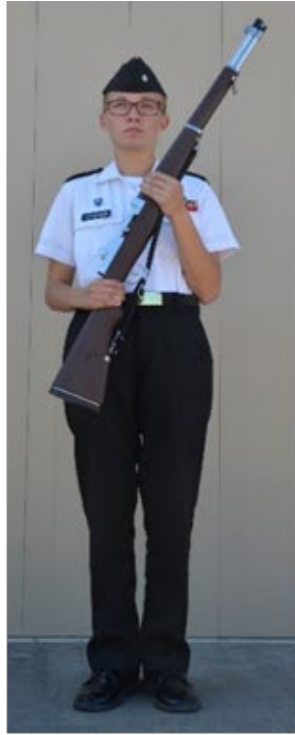
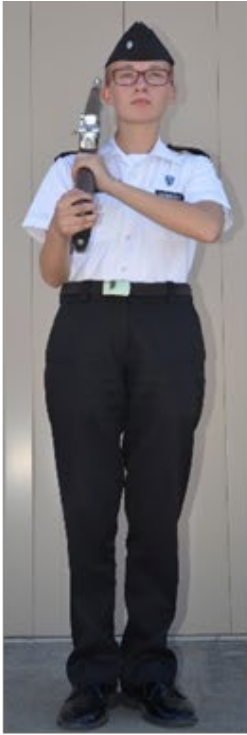
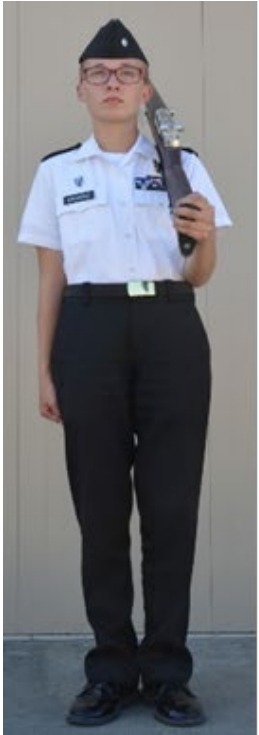
*Order Arms from Left Shoulder Arms* is a five-count movement. The command is ***Order, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, move the right hand up and across the body and grasp the small of the stock, keeping the right elbow down.
- On count two (without moving the head), release the grasp of the left hand and with the right hand move the rifle diagonally across the body (sights up) about four inches (4") from the body.
- At the same time, grasp the rifle at the balance with the left hand, and resume *Port Arms*.
- Counts three, four, and five are the same as *Order Arms from Port Arms*.





# *Order Arms from Left Shoulder Arms*





# Check on Learning

1. What is the command of execution in *Left Shoulder, Arms*?
2. At the end of the *Left Shoulder Arms* movement, the left forearm is \_\_\_\_\_ to the ground and the left upper arm is \_\_\_\_\_ the side and on line with the \_\_\_\_\_.



# Practicum

In the classroom, gym, or outside:

- Practice *Left Shoulder Arms* with a replica rifle or prop





# CHANGING POSITIONS

10. Properly change from each of the positions in the Manual of Arms to any other position.
11. Properly execute *15-Count Manual of Arms* with a rifle.



# Changing Positions

## Objectives

- *90% of Unit Cadets can properly execute the manual of arms using a replica (3-4 pound) rifle with sharpness, precision, and snap when given proper commands.*

10. Properly change from each of the positions in the Manual of Arms to any other position.

11. Experienced Cadets properly execute *15-Count Manual of Arms* with a rifle.

## Essential Question:

**What is the 15-count Manual of Arms?**



# Changing Positions

## *Right Shoulder Arms from Port Arms*

*Right Shoulder Arms from Port Arms* is a three-count movement. The command is ***Right Shoulder, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, release the grasp of the right hand and grasp the rifle with the heel of the butt between the first two fingers, with the thumb and forefinger touching.
- Counts two and three are the same as counts three and four from *Order Arms*.
- When marching, the command is given as the right foot strikes the ground; the right hand moves to the butt of the rifle when the left foot strikes the ground, immediately after the command.



# Changing Positions

## *Port Arms from Right Shoulder Arms*

*Port Arms from Right Shoulder Arms* is a two-count movement. The command is ***Right Shoulder, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute count one of *Order Arms from Right Shoulder Arms*.
- On count two, release the grasp of the right hand and grasp the rifle at the small of the stock and come to *Port Arms*.
- When marching, the command is given as the right foot strikes the ground; the first movement, taking the rifle off the shoulder, happens the next time the left foot strikes the ground.



# Changing Positions

## *Left Shoulder Arms from Port Arms*

*Left Shoulder Arms from Port Arms* is a two-count movement. The command is ***Left Shoulder, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *Left Shoulder Arms* in the same manner as counts three and four from *Order Arms*.
- When marching, the command is given as the left foot strikes the ground.



# Changing Positions

## *Port Arms from Left Shoulder Arms*

*Port Arms from Left Shoulder Arms* is a two-count movement. The command is ***Port, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute the first two counts of *Order Arms from Left Shoulder Arms*.
- When marching, the command is given as the left foot strikes the ground; the first movement, putting the rifle onto the left shoulder, takes place when the left foot strikes the ground, so the Cadet skips a beat after the command is given.



# *Changing Positions*

## *Left Shoulder Arms from Right Shoulder Arms*

*Left Shoulder Arms from Right Shoulder Arms* is a four-count movement. The command is ***Left Shoulder, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute the first count the same as executing *Order Arms*.
- On count two, remove the right hand from the butt of the rifle and grasp the small of the stock (*Port Arms*).
- Counts three and four are the same movements as from *Port Arms*.
- When marching, the command is given as the left foot strikes the ground; the first movement, taking the rifle off the right shoulder, happens when the left foot strikes the ground - skipping a beat after the command.



# Changing Positions

## *Right Shoulder Arms from Left Shoulder Arms*

*Right Shoulder Arms from Left Shoulder Arms* is a five-count movement. The command is ***Right Shoulder, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *Port Arms* in two counts.
- Counts three, four, and five are the same as from *Port Arms*.
- When *marching*, the command is given as the right foot strikes the ground; the first movement, putting the right hand on the small of the stock, happens when the left foot strikes the ground, immediately after the command.





# Changing Positions

## *Present Arms from Right Shoulder Arms or Left Shoulder Arms*

*Present Arms from Right Shoulder Arms or Left Shoulder Arms*, while in formation, is executed from the *Halt* only, NOT while marching. The command is ***Present, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, come to *Port Arms* from either shoulder and then execute *Present Arms* (in one count) from *Port Arms*.
- Cadets who might salute during *Eyes Right* while marching in a ceremony (Platoon Leaders and above), if carrying rifles, rifles should be at *Sling Arms*.



# Changing Positions

To resume *Right (Left) Shoulder Arms* from *Present Arms*, the command is ***Right (Left) Shoulder, ARMS.***

- On the command of execution **ARMS**, execute *Port Arms* in one count and then execute the counts as prescribed from *Port Arms*.



# 15-Count Manual of Arms

- Experienced Cadets should be able to execute the 15-count manual of arms in unison from *Order*, to *Right Shoulder*, to *Left Shoulder*, to *Present*, to *Order Arms*.
- The command is ***Fifteen-Count Manual, ARMS.***



# Check on Learning

1. When marching, the command given for *Right Shoulder, Arms to Port, Arms* is given when which foot strikes the ground?
2. *What is the 15-Count Manual of Arms?*



# Practicum

In the classroom, gym, or outside:

- Practice changing positions with a replica rifle or prop
- Experienced Cadets: practice executing the 15-count manual of arms in unison.