

COUNT CHART for CALLING OUT COMMANDS

Revised April 2016

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Band	Fall in	<i>Command is given out of time. Do not need to follow counts.</i>					
Band	Ten	Hut	HUT	----	-----	-----	-----
Band	----- a	Bout	Face	Step	Spin	Step	-----
Band	-----	Right/Left	Face	Step	Spin	Step	-----
Band	-----	Mark Time	----	Harch	HUT	LEFT	Right
Band	-----	Forward	----	Harch	HUT	LEFT	Right
Band	-----	Backward	----	Harch	HUT	LEFT	Right
Band	-----	Left Slide	----	Harch	HUT	LEFT	Right
Band	-----	Halt	AND	STOP	-----	-----	-----
Roll Off	-----	-----	-----	SNAP	-----	-----	-----

OVERALL MARCHING THOUGHTS: *These concepts apply to every move at all times.*

- Do not turn your head to look side to side, use your peripheral vision.
- Absolutely no talking/sounds at all.
- Please remain motionless unless making a marching/playing related move.
- “8 to 5” is the standard sized step that you will take in marching band. You will take 8 steps to move 5 yards in distance. Mathematically, this is a 22.5 inch step.
- The Platform of the foot is from the ball of your foot to the toe.

BAND FALL IN: *This command is given out of time/tempo*

- Find your spot immediately
- Right foot in place
- Feet are shoulder width apart.
- Each instrument will have its own specific carriage position, which would include the arms being at a rested position, straight down in front of the body. (in most cases)
- Head tilted toward the ground.
- Back straight
- Shoulders back

ATTENTION: (1) “Band (2) Ten (3) Hut” (4) “HUT!”

- Snap head up – chin up, eyes with pride
- Snap instrument up to the appropriate level
- Shoulders to elbows form straight line at a slightly descending angle
- Forearms form a triangle at a 90 degree angle (for brass players. Others alter slightly)
- **Left foot** comes together to meet the right
- All shout “***HUT!***”
- Straight line from ankles to knees to hips to shoulders to top of head.
- Heels and toes together – feet parallel to each other
- Knees slightly bent so they do not lock
- Weight evenly distributed over the arches of your feet
- Each instrument has its own carry position (see instrument carry position sheet)

MARK TIME (from stationary):

(1) “Band (2) (Rest) (3) Mark Time (4) (rest) (5) Harch” (6) “*HUT!*”

If we are already marching, this command will begin with the words “Mark Time”

- On “HUT,” the left heel rises off the ground. The platforms stay on the ground.
- On the next beat, the Left Heel hits the ground and the right heel comes up.
- Heel height is aligned with the ankle of the opposite foot.
- Drive the heel into the ground to achieve a hard and snappy movement for each step
- Isolate the upper body so there is no back and forth or up and down motion in the shoulder area. Upper body remains motionless.

HALT: (1) Band (2) (Rest) (3) (Rest) (4) (Rest) (5) Halt (6) and (7) STOP. FREEZE.

- Through the first 6 beats, nothing changes from the marching you were doing.
- The word STOP is when all motion will conclude.
 - Do not stop on the word “HALT,” stop on the word “STOP.”
- The final full step (in any direction) is with the right foot and on the word “HALT” the left foot meets the right foot in your final place.
- Make sure each step leading up to the STOP is a full step in the direction you are already moving.

FORWARD MARCH (from stationary):

(1) Band (2) (Rest) (3) Forward (4) (Rest) (5) Harch (6) HUT!

- The left foot will begin to move forward at the very last portion of the beat in which we say “HUT.”
 - Part 1 – plant the left heel into ground while raising your right heel up about an inch
 - Part 2 – cross your right foot forward while rolling your left foot to a flattened position
 - Part 3 – plant your right heel into the ground and continue alternating the same way.
 - The term “Roll Step” is used to remind you that you will not march in a flat-footed position. Instead, all movement goes from “heel to toe” when coming forward.
- Toes are pointed forward
- Keep your knees straightened out on the downbeats.

BACKWARD MARCH (from stationary):

(1) Band (2) (Rest) (3) Backward (4) (Rest) (5) Harch (6) HUT!

- Similar to forward march, the left foot will move at the very last portion of the beat in which we say “HUT.”
- Drag the left foot back a full 22 ½ inch step, maintaining contact to the ground with the platforms of your feet at all times.
- On the next beat, the left foot will be at its destination and the right foot begins to slide back.
- Push down through the toes and lift through the ankle. Work to raise the heels as high as possible throughout this move.

BACKWARD MARCH (from moving): (1) Backward (2) (Rest) (3) Harch (4) *HUT!*”

LEFT SLIDE (from stationary): (1) Band (2) (Rest) (3) Left Slide (4) (Rest) (5) Harch.

- Pivot on your right platform and shoot the left foot out in the new direction to allow the lower body to face the left
- Maintain posture facing the home stands from the waist up.
- This requires a twist in the spine (think “spiral staircase”), keeping the shoulders flat to the sideline and posture tall.
- It is imperative that you pull up through the core to maintain balance and proper alignment.
- This pivot movement will happen at the very last portion of the beat before the first movement with the left foot planting on beat 1.
- At this point, the footwork is exactly the same as forward march while your upper body remains flat to the sideline.

RIGHT SLIDE (from stationary): (1) Band (2) (Rest) (3) Right Slide (4) (Rest) (5) Harch.

- Pivot your feet on the right toe and shoot the left foot across the body toward the right
- Lower body is now facing the right.

LEFT/RIGHT SLIDE (from moving): (1) Left/Right Slide 2)(Rest) 3)Harch 4)***HUT!***”

ROLL OFF: On the roll off, you will already be marching. The first 4 beats of the drum roll off are a warning. On beat 5, the instruments SNAP up to the playing position immediately and then you wait till beat 9 to begin playing.

ABOUT/LEFT FACE:

(1) “Band (2) (Rest) (3) About (4) Face” (5) STEP (6) SPIN (7) STEP

- On beat 5, step forward a full 22 ½ inch step with the right foot, placing your weight on both platforms.
- On beat 6, the entire body snaps to rotate from the feet to either turn 180 degrees or 90 degrees towards your left side.
- On beat 7, the right foot snaps to meet the left foot.
- You must end up in the exact same place and position you started

CORRECT CARRY POSITIONS FOR EACH INSTRUMENT:

Piccolo: The piccolo is perpendicular to the ground. Maintain a distance of 2 fists away from the body. The hole of the mouthpiece is even with the nose and the hands/fingers will be holding the piccolo regularly for playing. Forearms form a triangle at a 135 degree angle (Which is a flatter angle than most of the other instruments)

Clarinet: The clarinet is perpendicular to the ground. Maintain a distance of 2 fists away from the body. The Mouthpiece is even with the nose and the hands/fingers will be holding the clarinet regularly for playing. By keeping the mouthpiece at the nose, the arms will fall into place at the proper height. Keep your wrists straight to avoid dropping your elbows.

Saxophone: The saxophone is held at an angle with the left hand being higher than the right. Maintain a distance of 2 fists away from the body. Hands/fingers hold the saxophone regularly for playing. The forearms will be relatively flat to the ground. Keep your wrists straight to avoid dropping the elbows.

Trumpet/Mellophone/Baritone: The instrument bell is flat to the ground. Maintain a distance of 2 fists away from the body. The first valve is even with the eyes. Forearms form a triangle at a 90 degree angle

Trombone: The trombone bell is flat to the ground. Maintain a distance of 2 fists away from the body. The mouthpiece is even with the eyes.

Tuba: The tuba is held with the bell flat to the ground. These are heavy, but you must still hold it away from the body and be careful not to let the tuba go lower and lower!

Flag: The flag pole should be held against the right hip bone with both hands. The silk will be stripped and looped under the right first finger. (We will explain how to “strip” the silk during rehearsal.)

Rifle: The rifle is held perpendicular to the body against your right side, parallel to the ground. The right hand under the butt or the rifle and the left arm is across the small of the back holding under the nose of the rifle.

Percussion:

- **Snare Drum:** Sticks out in front of you, ready to play. The tips of the sticks about 1 inch apart and hovering 1-2 inches above the center of the drum head.
- **Quints:** Sticks out in front of you, ready to play. The tips of the sticks about 1 inch apart and hovering 1-2 inches above the center of the smallest drum head.
- **Bass Drum:** Mallet heads approximately 2 inches away from the center of the drum head. Do not rest the bottom of the stick or your arm on the bass drum.
- **Cymbals:** Cymbals held out in front. If there were no cymbals, you would be making a 90 degree angle with your fists. Cymbals are perpendicular to the ground about two inches apart from each other. Cymbals are held about 2 inches away from the body.