

Step-Back.—Lean the body slightly forward and close the legs; as the horse attempts to go forward, feel both reins in an equal manner, with a light but firm bearing. The hands and legs must work together in a "take and give" manner.

(The difference between Stepping-Back and Reining-Back is that the former is a continuous march to the rear, whilst in the latter the horse takes one pace with each diagonal, being halted after every two paces. Running back from the hand, or pulling the horse back with a dead, continuous feeling of the reins, is not riding him to the rear. Care must be taken that the horse does not diverge from the straight, lower his forehead, or drag his feet, but that he bends his knees and flexes his hocks, as in going forward.)

Right Turn (On the Move).—Lean the body slightly to the right, and lead the forehead round with a double feeling of the right rein, supported by the left, and by a pressure of both legs, the left leg the stronger, make the hind feet follow the track of the fore, the horse turning on the arc of a small circle.

Right About Turn (On the Move).—As above, only the track completes a small semi-circle.

Circle Right.—Lean the body to the right, and lead the forehead round with a double feeling of the right rein, supported by the left. A stronger pressure of the left leg obliges the hind feet to follow in the track of the fore, whilst the right leg keeps the horse up to hand.

(In circling, the horse must be bent from head to tail to conform to the circumference of the circle, being supported between the right rein and left leg. If the body is straight, and not bent as above, a succession of turns will follow, and the haunches will "fly" out.)

To Change the Rein in the Circle.—Reverse the Aids, the bend, and the balance. The change can be made on completion of the half-circle by making a second half-circle to the opposite hand, and so proceed in the same direction; or after three-quarters of the circle, change and file away in the opposite direction in the same track. The **Figure 8** is good practice in this respect, as follows:—Describe a half-circle to the right, change, and make a full circle to the left, then change again and complete the circle to the right; or describe complete circles to the right and left alternately.

Right Incline (In the Manège).—Make a third right turn so as to gain ground obliquely to the front. The Aids are as for Right Turn, except that the hands and legs resume the normal when the diagonal march is obtained. In column of single file, the leading file is responsible for the pace and direction, the remainder conforming to him. Each man dresses with his left knee behind the right knee of the man on his left front, at an interval of $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards. In line (at turning intervals—i.e., $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards), the dressing, etc., is taken from the right, the right knee of each file being behind the left knee of the man on his right.

Right or Right About on the Haunches.—Stay the haunches with the left leg, and lean the body slightly back; lead the forehead round with the right rein, the left supporting; the right leg keeping the horse up to hand, the off hind being the pivot.

Right or Right About on the Centre.—Lead the forehead round with the right rein, circle the haunches round with the right leg, the left leg and rein supporting; the horse pivoting on the centre, fore and hind feet describing a circle.

(4)

Right Pass.—Lead the forehead to the right with a double feeling of the right rein, supported by the left; a stronger pressure of the left leg to oblige the horse to cross his legs, the right keeping him up to hand.

(The Passage is a lateral movement on two tracks. The horse's body is square to the front, the fore feet moving on one line and the hind feet on the other, being parallel; the horse crossing his legs, the near over the off.)

Right Half Pass.—Lead the forehead to the right front with the right rein, well supported by the left. A stronger pressure of the left leg to oblige the horse to place his near feet in front to the off; sufficient pressure from the right leg to make him take ground to the front as well as to the flank.

(The difference between the Passage and the Half-Passage is—In the Passage the horse crosses his feet, and the movement is to the flank, the right leg merely keeping him up to hand. In the Half-Passage the horse only half crosses his feet, placing one in front of the other, the stronger pressure of the right leg obliging him to go forward as well as to the flank. In the former there is an increased bearing of the right rein, and in the latter a stronger pressure of the right leg.)

The "Passage Lesson," as drilled in a manège, commencing on the right rein, the track being one yard from the side:—

Shoulder In—Left Pass.—Lead the forehead in by a double feeling of the right rein, supported by the left, and apply a pressure of both legs, the left leg the stronger; when turned, apply the Aids for "Left Pass," and dress to the left. The turns in the corners are made on the forehead.

From Shoulder In—Left Pass to Shoulder Out—Right Pass.—Turn about on the centre, the fore and hind feet describing a circle; when turned, apply the Aids for "Right Pass," and change the dressing to the right. The turns in the corners are made on the haunches, and in turning the right leg checks the hind feet momentarily, whilst the left leg supports them, and prevents them from swerving.

(The prefix "Shoulder In" means the horse's forehead is to be turned towards the centre of the school or manège, and in the open towards the Instructor. "Shoulder Out," the forehead is to be turned outwards or away from the centre and Instructor. The command "Forward" may be given with the "Shoulder In" or "Shoulder Out," but from the "Shoulder In," the hind feet being in the track, they must be held there, while the forehead is led out. In the "Shoulder Out" the fore legs being in the track, the hind feet must be ridden out to follow them.)

Points to be observed when Jumping.

That the horse is collected and brought up to the obstacle with animation.

That the rider preserves a correct balance, and does not disturb that of his horse.

That a slight bearing of the reins is maintained to collect the horse, care being taken that the movements of the rider's hands accompany those of the horse, so as not to restrict the action of his head and neck.

That the pressure of the legs is increased in giving the horse the "office" to take off.

That the rider's eyes are directed over the fence, because the hand follows the eye, and the horse follows the rein.

(The chief factor in jumping is the determination of the rider to clear the obstacle. Any indecision in the mind of the man is immediately communicated to a nervous horse.)

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Points to be observed in passing up and down Steep Slopes, Banks, etc., or crossing very Broken Ground.

That the rider's body is perpendicular to the horizontal plane—i.e., to the level ground—having the appearance of leaning forward in the saddle in ascending, and backwards in descending.

That the horse has a free rein in the former, but is supported and kept STRAIGHT by both reins and legs in the latter.

That the leg pressure is maintained behind the girths the whole time, and that on no account must the rider's feet come forward.

In crossing rough and very broken ground, the horse should have perfect freedom of action, but on no account should the reins be entirely relaxed.

Paces.

Short-Walk	...	2 miles per hour.
Walk	4 " "
Jog-Trot	6 " "
Trot	8 " "
Canter	9 " "
Trot-Out	11 " "
Gallop	15 " "

Charge.—The fastest pace a body of troops can maintain in good order.

Dressing.

Each man should maintain—

1. His horse square to the front.
2. Correct interval.
3. Correct distance.
4. Uniformity of pace.

In Troop Drill the men conform to the movements of the Troop Leader. For the purposes of inspection it may be necessary to dress by a flank, but only at the halt

At the Walk	117 yards are passed over in 1 minute.
„ Trot	235 „ „ „ 1 „ or $\frac{1}{4}$ mile 1 min.
„ Gallop	440 „ „ „ 1 „ [52 sec.

The above Aids apply to the ordinary riding of a trained horse, and must be thoroughly understood by all. The advanced Aids for expert horsemanship have been omitted, including reining-back and bending, which are quite distinct from stepping back and passaging. Although they should be carefully learnt, "Aid-saying" should not be done in a parrot-like fashion, but practised individually, the Aids being applied as detailed, suiting the action to the word. Those given enable the rider to direct and control his horse in every required movement in Military Equitation (expert horsemanship excepted). For working to the Left they are the same as to the Right, substituting the word "Left" for "Right," and vice versa.