

## Countermarching

### Maintain ground (a.k.a., Chorean)




Command:

**"All files, by the left hand, countermarch to maintain ground!"**

File leader (man in red) moves in the direction indicated. Those behind follow and turn on the same ground. This is not a modern-day 'about face.'

About this countermarch, Colonel Barriffe remarks: "...it is more in use then any of the other."

Notes WITHIN the Flash animation:

The File Leader swings around 180° and marches in the reverse direction he came in. The rest follow right behind. When completed, the column is no farther back nor forward from whence it began.	 1.
 2.	 3.

Sgt. Subtelus says: "In an exigent situation to the rear of the formation, the officer or sergeant should consider having the soldiers simply face about, which is quicker than any countermarch. Upon completion of the face about, the Bringer-up becomes the temporary File Leader. Note the term: "temporary."

## Counter marching

### Losing ground (a.k.a., Lacedaemonian)

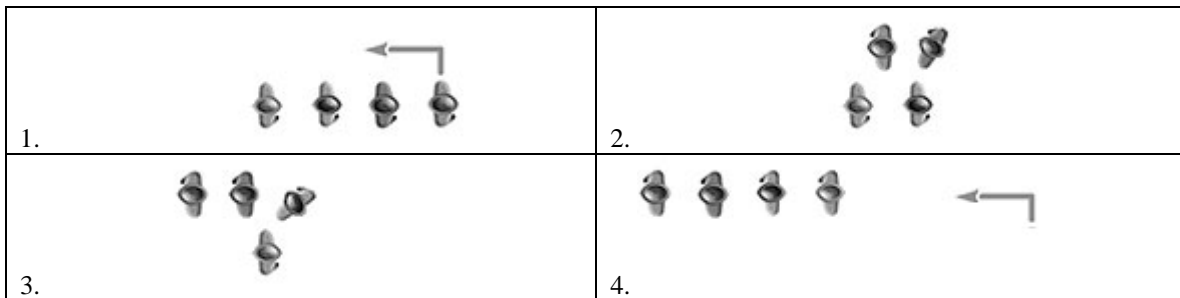
Command:

**"Files to the left, countermarch, every man turning after his leader!"**

Files to the left (or right) hand countermarch with every soldier turning after the soldier immediately in front on the ground he stands.

Notes WITHIN the Flash animation:

1. For this countermarch, each soldier in the file will turn 180° only after the man who had been in front of him has completed his turn and has passed by going the other way.
2. In this way, the block of soldiers would recede rank by rank.



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Sgt. Subtelus says: "This and any countermarch brings the most experienced and most armored soldiers around to face any enemy that may be gathering to the rear."

And

"With this or any countermarch, the files may maintain their march farther than the immediate ground; indeed, they shall go as far as their commander so chooses."

## Countermarching

### Gaining ground (a.k.a., Macedonian)

Command:

**"File Leaders, face about to the left/right, the rest pass through to the left/right and place yourselves behind your leaders."**

File leader faces about, but does not step to one side or the other. The rest pass through to the left (or right - but all to the same side) and place themselves behind the leader.

This countermarch, Colonel Barriffe mentions: "... is rather remembered for its antiquity than excellency..."

Notes WITHIN the Flash animation:

The File Leader (red) turns around to face to the rear. The second man (yellow) in the file now leads off to the left as shown (or can be to the right) of the File Leader and goes to stand behind him, facing also to the rear. The other men in the file follow suit.

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The Young Artilleryman, Chapt XLVI