

11. The Adjutant, seeing the ranks aligned, will command: FRONT!  
and march along the front to the centre, face to the right, and pass the line of company officers 8-10 paces, come to the right-about, and command:  
*Present—ARMS!*  
when arms will be presented, officers saluting.  
He will then face about to the commanding officer, salute, and report, "*Sir, the parade is formed.*" The Adjutant will then, on initiation to that effect, take his station three paces on the left of the commanding officer, one pace retired, passing round his rear.  
13. The commanding officer, having acknowledged the salute of the line by touching his hat, will, after the Adjutant has taken his post, draw his sword, and command:  
1. *Battalion.*  
2. *Shoulder—ARMS!*  
and add such other exercises in the manual of Arms as he may think proper, concluding with:  
*Order—ARMS!*  
then return his sword, and direct the Adjutant to receive the reports.  
14. The Adjutant will now pass round the right of the commanding officer, advance upon the line, halt midway between him and the line of company officers, and command:  
1. *First Sergeants, to the front and centre.*  
2. MARCH!  
At the first command, they will *shoulder arms* as Sergeants, march two paces to the front, and face inward. At the second command, they will march to the centre, and halt. The Adjutant will then order:  
1. *Front—FACE.*  
2. *Report.*  
At the last word, each in succession, beginning on the right, will salute by bringing the left hand smartly across the breast to the right shoulder, and report the result of the roll-call previously made on the company parade.  
15. The Adjutant again commands:  
1. *First Sergeants, onward—FACE!*  
2. *To your posts—MARCH!*  
when they will resume their places, and order arms.  
16. The Adjutant will now face to the commanding officer, salute, report absent officers, and give the result of the First Sergeants' reports. The commanding officer will next direct the orders to be read, when the Adjutant will face about and announce:  
He will then read the orders aloud.  
*Attention to Orders.*

17. The orders having been read, the Adjutant will face to the commanding officer, salute, and report; when, on an intimation from the commanding officer, he will face again to the line, and announce:  
*Parade is dismissed.*
18. All the officers will now return their swords, face inward, and close on the Adjutant, he having taken position in their line, the field officers on the flanks. The Adjutant commands:  
1. *Front—FACE!*  
2. *Forward—MARCH!*  
when they will march forward, dressing on the centre, the music playing, and when within six paces of the commanding officer, the Adjutant will command:  
*Halt!*
19. The officers will then salute the commanding officer by raising the hand to the cap, and there remain until he shall have communicated to them such instructions as he may have to give, or intimates that the ceremony is finished.
20. As the officers disperse, the First Sergeants will close the ranks of their respective companies, and march them to the company parades (streets), where they will be dismissed, the music continuing to play until the companies have cleared the battalion parade ground.
21. All field and company officers and men will be present at dress parades, unless expressly excused, or on some duty incompatible with such attendance.
22. A dress parade once a day will not be dispensed with, except on extraordinary and urgent occasions.

As excerpted from the following sources:

- 1861 Revised Regulations for the Army of the United States,.
- Parades, Inspections, and Evolutions by D. Dal Bello
- Customs of Service for Officers.
- Infantry Tactics, by Brig.-Gen. Silas Casey

1. There shall be daily one dress parade as the commanding officer may direct before the parade time, for the music to assemble on the parade ground, and each company to turn out under arms on its own parade (company street), for roll-call and inspection by its own officers.
3. Ten minutes after that signal, the *Adjutant's call* will be given, when the Captains will march their companies to the regimental parade, where they will take their positions in line of battle (see *Assembly of the Battalion* by this same author). When the line is formed, the Captain of the first company, on direction from the Adjutant, steps one pace to the front, and gives his company the command:  
1. *Order—ARMS!*  
2. *Parade—REST!*  
which is repeated by each Captain in succession to the left.  
4. The Adjutant takes post two paces on the right of the line; the Sergeant-major two paces on the left. The music will be formed in two ranks on the right of the Adjutant. The senior officer present will take command of the parade, and will take post at a suitable distance in front, opposite the centre, facing the line.  
5. When the companies have ordered arms, the Adjutant will order the music to beat off, when it will commence on the right, beat in front of the line to the left, and back to its place on the right.  
6. When the music has ceased, The Adjutant will step two paces to the front, face to the left (toward the line), and command:  
1. *Attention!*  
2. *Battalion.*  
3. *Shoulder—ARMS!*  
4. *Prepare To open ranks!*  
5. *To the rear, open order!*  
6. MARCH!  
At the fifth command, the covering (first) sergeants, and the sergeant on the left of the line, will place themselves four paces in rear of the front rank and opposite their places in the line, to mark the new alignment of the rear rank. At the sixth command "March", the rear rank and the file closers will step to the rear without counting steps; the men will pass a little in rear of the line traced for this rank, halt, and dress forward on the covering sergeants, who will align correctly the men of their respective companies.  
9. The file closers will fall back and preserve the distance of two paces from the rear rank, glancing eyes to the right.  
10. The commissioned officers will march to the front, the company officers four paces, the field officers six paces, opposite to their positions in the order of battle, where they will halt and dress.

## Dress Parade

Instructions for the proper execution of

# The Dress Parade

As Developed for Use by the Armies  
of the United States  
in the Field.

Ed. 1862

Compiled and Edited by

Captain M. R. Hernbroth  
Department of the Inspector General