

Viking / Old Norse Drill commands

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Viking / Old Norse Command (pronunciation)	Translation	Actions
Preparation Commands		
ping	Assemble or rally...	form a single line facing the officer, if there is a standard then present or form up on it.
Bida	Await the order, form a line	
Langr (or) skipa fylkingina	Order the Line (Dress the line)	<p>Command given while stationary</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Turn head left & put left fist on next mans shoulder 2. Shuffle to fix the spacing 3. Arms down, eyes front <p>Note: Using the soldier in the centre of the line as your base, stretch out the left arm and everybody shuffle sideways so your fist just touches the shoulder of the guy next to you</p>
Grunnr vapna	Ground Arms	<p>Command given while stationary</p> <p>Place the butt of the shaft on the floor next to your right foot.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grab the centre of the shaft with the left hand 2. with both hands on the shaft, ground the weapon. - Put the butt of the weapon on the ground 3. Then return the left hand to your side <p>Note: Three movements are needed for this</p>
Foera vapna	Present Arms	<p>Command given while stationary</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Push weapon forward while keeping the butt next to your right foot.
Oppmeskohmet	Attention	
En roth om Jarl	One rank facing the Jarl	
Snua drottinn	Turn towards the Officer	

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Movement Commands		
Snua	Turn	
Rettr Snua (or) h[æ]gra sn[u']	Right Turn	turn to the weapon side
Vestra Snua (or) vinstra sn[u']	Left turn	turn to the shield side
Runt omkering (or) i kringum sn[u']	About Turn	wheel to the left. (Shield faces the enemy) Note: be sure to have your weapons on a steep enough slant so they don't all crash into each other during the turn
koma	Countermarch	The leading soldier in each rank takes two steps, then turns right and immediately right again. In effect, the two leading soldiers have reversed direction – on the move – and are now marching in the opposite direction to the rest of the troops. As each subsequent soldier reaches the place where the leader turned about he/she does so as well, one after the other. Basically, all the files (each of two people) do a U-turn, so they double back on themselves, with the leader of the line threading between the lines going the other way. When the line is nearly evenly stretched across the space, the officer calls out Note: it is important make sure every person steps forwards and turns on the same point
Vestra hringr	Left Wheel	Command given on LEFT Foot Left file 1. Step short with the Right Foot 2. Step short and turn 45° left with the Left foot 3. Step short and turn 45° left with the Right foot Right file 1. Step long with the Right Foot 2. Step long and turn 45° left with the Left foot 3. Step long and turn 45° left with the Right foot Note: The second rank takes two paces and then does the same and so on for each file so that <u>EACH FILE DOES THE TURN ON THE SAME SPOT</u>

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Rettr hringr	Right Wheel	Command given on LEFT Foot Left file 4. Step long with the Right Foot 5. Step long and turn 45° right with the Left foot 6. Step long and turn 45° right with the Right foot Right file 4. Step short with the Right Foot 5. Step short and turn 45° right with the Left foot 6. Step short and turn 45° right with the Right foot Note: The second rank takes two paces and then does the same and so on for each file so that <u>EACH FILE DOES THE TURN ON THE SAME SPOT</u>
Stand (or) st[o/][d-]va	Halt / Stop (normal marching)	Command given on LEFT foot 1. Step right foot 2. Step left foot 3. Bring right foot level with left foot
Stand Hefja hervapn (or) st[o/][d-]va Hefja hervapn	Halt (with brandished arms)	Command given on LEFT foot 1. Step right foot 2. Step left foot 3. Stamp the right foot without bringing it forward (i.e maintain wide footing when brandishing arms) Note: Take 3 more steps – one, two, halt
Andlit Rettr	Face Right	Command given while stationary 1. Place right toe at left heel 2. Rotate 90° right on the balls of feet 3. Bring left foot level with right (stamp)
Andlit Vestra	Face Left	Command given while stationary 4. Place left toe at right heel 5. Rotate 90° right on the balls of feet 6. Bring right foot level with left (stamp)
Fram! (or) ganga fram	Advance / March forward	march, starting on the left foot
Foera vapna	Present Arms	the hand holding the weapon is pushed forward, while the butt of the shaft stays by your right foot.
Bogr vapna	Shoulder Arms	Raise weapon and rest against right shoulder
v[a"]pn	Ready Arms	Spear men drop their spear points to face directly at the crowd, Ax emen brandish their weapons, and the troops advance slowly and deliberately toward the audience. Note: This must not be hurried. Make sure spearpoints to go well over the heads of the audience.

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ein/tw[a'] r[o/][d-]	Files	Files = Two Lines of soldiers Axemen on right, Spearmen on left. Two reliable guards should lead the line Officer in front or to one side of the troops Rank = two pairs of soldiers in this case a Axeman & Spearman
Thegya	Silence Be silent / Quiet!	
Skindra	Hurry Up	
Snuva mot andskoti	Turn towards the enemy	
Bus til vapna	Prepare to pick up weapons	
Reisa alvaepni	Pick up weapons / Carry weapons	
Hefja hervapn	Raise weapons	
Hafask lind fyrir (or) b[u']a til skjaldborg	Prepare shield wall	
Hlif balkr (or) skjaldborg	Shield wall close shields together, overlap round shields
ni[d-]ra skjoidu	Shields down	
Langr	Close up	
Bua til en trotha litha (or) fram einn stiga	Prepare to advance one step on command	
Trotha	Step	
stig	Forward one step	
Tekja eitt stig	Take one step	... step
Fram! vidreign	Advance into engagement	Maintain a steady line, move up to and / or through the enemy line
Fram! bardagi	Advance into battle at a walk	Maintain a steady line and clash weapons on shields

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Hvarfa Fram!	Walk forward.	To be used when moving a line from the attention position.
hlaupa	Run	jog, maintaining the line
H'vild	At ease / Stand at ease	
Brott hlaup	Withdraw	
Ganga aptur	Go backwards	
Aptra! Hrokkva (or) hr[o/]kk	Retreat. Fall back	facing the enemy, maintaining the line.
Aptra! greidliga	Retreat quickly	
Aptra!	Retreat	
Rennundan / hlaupa undan	Run away	
brottkvadning	Dismiss / Fall Out	
Langr (or) fylking	Close order	from the attention position, draw weapons or pick up spear.
opna fylking	Open order	Come to attention with your shield at your side and your spear held upright at the shoulder.
Mynd bardagi	Form up battle line	
Mynd vid midr	Form up towards the center	
knekr[s'u']p	Kneel	
merk tima	Mark time	
stand f[ae] stan	Standfast	
Standa Brimsker (or) Standa fastr	Stand firm	Lock shields and brace. Defensive or offensive
Geysa (or) [a']r[a']s	Attack	Attack! / Charge
Veg (hard 'g')	Fight	
Hrinda	Push	

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endrtak fylkingina	Re-form	
I komandi	Incoming	
ek ganga [a'] hond	I Surrender	
or	Arrows	
spjot	Spear	Note: spears is spjor
sverd	Sword	
Ox	Axe	
Il ya duna	Make noise	
sitja	Sit down / Rest	
Snuask undan	Shove off	
b[u']a	To prepare	
halda	to hold	
skjoldr	Shield	
flik	Flag	
Other		
Thegn	mature warrior (corporal)	
Dreng	young warrior (private)	
Merkismathr	Standard bearer	
Stallari	marshal – the king's deputy in the field	
Jarl	a semi or fully independent lordship.	
Hird (Pronounced 'Heerth')	Army	
Hirthmenn	Soldiers	
Insults		
Dauthr til Saxa	Death to the Saxons	
Dauthr til ovinr	Death to our enemy	
Nith kringla	Circle of treachery	
Berja ykkarr andskoti	Smite your enemies	
geit	She goat	
forad	Monster	

Sources on Old Norse Pronunciation :

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<http://www.hi.is/~haukurth/norse/articles/altpron.html>

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<http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/norse/onpronounce.html>

Sources on Commands:

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