

SECTION FORMATIONS

The section commander should decide what formation the section will travel in depending upon:

- Ground.
- Visibility.
- Direction from which enemy fire is expected.
- The need for control by the section commander.
- The need for producing the maximum fire with the minimum delay.



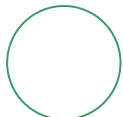
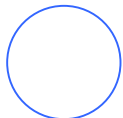
A. Least vulnerable to fire from a flank.
A. Useful for moving along linear features such as hedges or ditches which give cover.



A. Good for control on a very dark night.

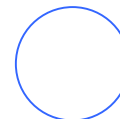
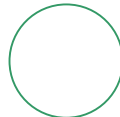
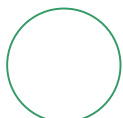


D. Bad for fire production to the front.
D. Vulnerable to frontal fire.
D. Bad for observation to the flanks as men tend to allow their eyes to rest on the person in front of them.
D. Passage of commands and information is slow.



Single File

Single file is useful for following linear features such as hedges, ditches, walls and narrow tracks. Each man must follow in the path of the leading man.

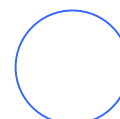
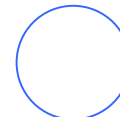


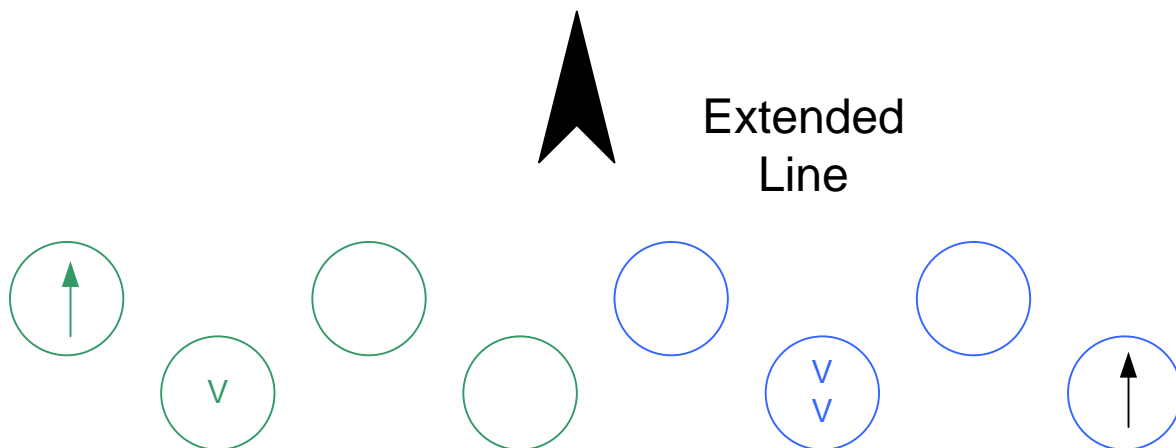
Diamond

Diamond formation is only used when crossing open country at night. It is an easy formation to control and gives good all round observation and protection. Each man in the diamond must be able to see the next man. The commander may be either at the front or in the middle.

- A.** All round defence.
- A.** Good control.

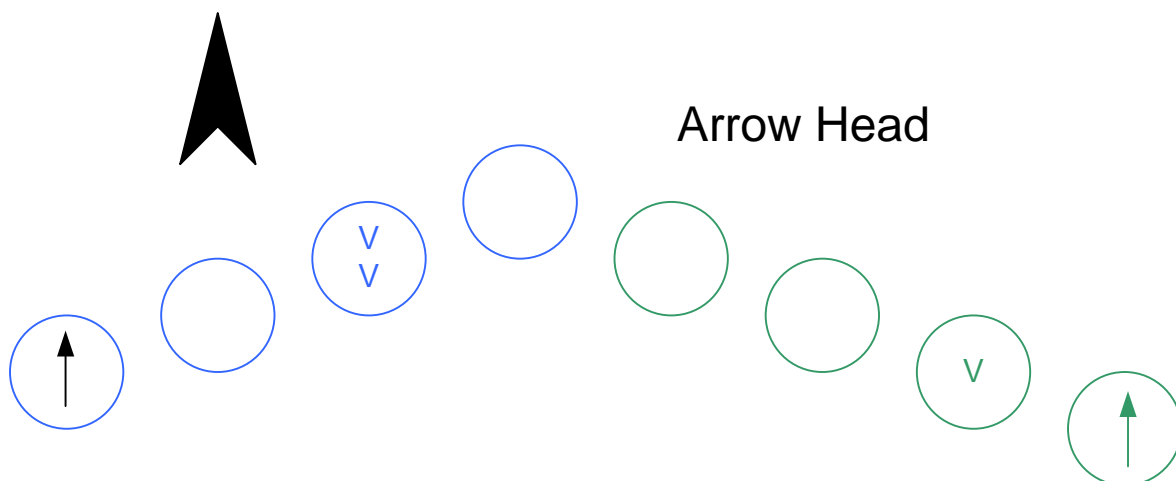
D. Is a vulnerable target after dark when illuminated.





An extended line is used on occasions as an assault formation. Each man is slightly staggered.

- A. Maximum firepower available.
- D. Difficult to control.



Arrowhead is probably the best for moving on a broad front in open country. If only one LSW, it is positioned on the flank most likely to be attacked.

- A. Easy to control.
- A. Very good all round observation and protection.
- D. If too concentrated, presents a vulnerable target.

There should be a 6–8 metre interval between cadets in each formation except scouts who could be up to 30 -40 metres in front

A section must always move so that the section commander can control it instantly by word of mouth or signal, and the members of the section must be able to react to his orders instantly. This will not be possible if the members move as individuals having no regard for the other members of the section