

Calling the changes

Before attempting to call changes you must be able to see the order in which the ropes are falling. Equally, you should know the order in which they **should** be falling after each call so as to be able to correct any errors.

On six bells a useful starter is to call the bells from rounds (1 2 3 4 5 6) into “Queens” , (1 3 5 2 4 6). In some towers Queens is called “Thirds”.

From: 1 2 3 4 5 6

Call “4 over 5” to give: 1 2 3 5 4 6

Call “2 over 3” to give: 1 3 2 5 4 6

Call “2 over 5” to give: 1 3 5 2 4 6

This is an easy sequence to remember, however, study how the bells move at each step when you are calling it.

Now to return to rounds. When calling up the easiest way to get rounds is to move the larger bells to the back in sequence until 5 is in its own place (or “Home”), then call 4 up until it is home, and so on. To do this you must be able to see who is following who, calling the “target” bell up one place at a time until it comes into its own (“home”) place.

Thus to return from Queens to rounds, start by calling 5 up over each bell in turn until 5 is “home”, (in fifths place).

From: 1 3 5 2 4 6

Call “5 over 2” to give: 1 3 2 5 4 6

Call “5 over 4” to give: 1 3 2 4 5 6 (4 & 5 are now “home”.)

Call “3 over 2” to give 1 2 3 4 5 6.

Calling the larger bells up is the easiest way of returning to rounds if you are calling up; calling the little bells down is easiest if you are calling down.

On five bells, from rounds, 2 4 1 3 5 sounds similar to Queens on six bells:

From: 1 2 3 4 5

Call “Treble over 2” to give: 2 1 3 4 5

Call “3 over 4” to give: 2 1 4 3 5

Call “Treble over 4” to give: 2 4 1 3 5.

To return to rounds call 4 up to fourths place; now 3-4-5 are home. Now call 2 over treble.

You can work out your own sequences for other callings. “Tittums” on 6 is 1-4-2-5-3-6, and Steve Coleman’s book gives lots of other examples such as “Hagdyke” and “Kings”.

Useful sequences on eight:	Queens	1 3 5 7 2 4 6 8	
	Kings	7 5 3 1 2 4 6 8	(or 1 7 5 3 2 4 6 8)
	Tittums	1 5 2 6 3 7 4 8	
	Whittingtons:	1 2 7 5 3 4 6 8	