Brig Maneuvers

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U.S. Brig Niagara
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Age of Fighting Sail

- Needs to be highly maneuverable in tight quarters
- Sacrifice mechanical advantage for speed
- Nearly unlimited manpower
Single sails were common in the old clippers, and double sails in the more modern sailing ships.
Getting a Brig Underway from Anchor

Sail off the anchor (course to windward)

1. Heave in the cable to short stay
2. Set topsails, loose the jib
3. Brace foreyards aback for desired tack
4. Brace mainyards for desired tack
5. Heave round, weigh anchor
6. Set the jib aback, helm's alee
7. As the main yards fill, let go and haul foreyards
8. Pass the jib
9. Set the spanker
10. Steer full and by
11. Cat and fish the anchor
Wearing a Brig

1. Shiver the main yards
2. Brail in the spanker
3. Up helm

4. Shift spanker
5. Main yards sharp up STBD tack
6. Square foreyards
7. Pass headsails

8. Foreyards brace sharp up STBD tack
9. Set the spanker
10. Steer full and by
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vfu_ZPF_HiTU&t=0s
Tacking a Brig

Tacking, or Coming About

1. Standby to come about
2. Ease down the helm
3. Haul the spanker to weather
4. Ease headsheets
5. Rise fore tacks and sheets
6. Mainsail haul
7. Shift the helm (only needed if she starts sternway)
8. Trice up the spanker
9. Let go and haul
10. Pass fore and aft
11. Set the foresail
12. Steer full and by
Sailing up to an anchor
1. Approaching the anchorage
   a. Shorten sail. clew up on the courses
   b. Range the cable on deck
   c. Cat the anchor & rig the anchor buoy

2. Nearing the berth, wind abeam
   (able to head up or fall off)
   a. Set the spanker
   b. Take in t'gallants
   c. Douse the headsails
   d. Foretopsail clew down
   e. Down helm
   f. Square the main yards
   g. Spanker midships

3. As she comes head to wind and loses all way
   a. Stream the buoy
   b. Rudder amidships
   c. Stand clear the cable
   d. (as she gathers sternway) Let go!
   e. (as cable pays out) Check her at ( ) fathoms
   f. Holding sir
   g. Ease out to ( ) fathoms and make fast

Sailing on to the Anchor
1. **P*ORT **PACK**
2. **C**RAMPER TO W*IND**
3. **DOW**N **S**AIL**
4. **HA**M*EL H**AUL**
5. **R**E**ADE**LS **BACK**
6. **R**A**KE** **HEAD**
7. **B**ACK **T**ACK**

**THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF**
**TACKING SHIP IN 6 STEPS.**

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1. On starboard tack... take in the spanker!

2. Up helm! Shiver the main yards!

3. Square the fore yards!

4. Before the wind, pass fore and aft!

5. Set the spanker!

6. Brake up sharp, port track!

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Wearing ship. Ground lost to leeward is greater than depicted. Position of observer, indicated by @. Note that vessel crosses own track.