



Plain Bob Minor.

From Bob doubles the next step, in a six-bell tower, is usually to ring Bob minor, where all six bells are changing and we lose the “covering tenor”. The main differences from Bob doubles are:

- You count up and down six places when hunting.
- The lay in sixths place is handstroke/backstroke; in doubles it was backstroke/handstroke.
- There isn't a cover bell to lead from.
- Without a covering tenor there is no “marker” at the end of each change. This gives a different sense of rhythm in minor. Now the open lead becomes all-important as a marker and to give “punctuation” to the ringing. So listen carefully to your leading.

First, get used to hunting the treble, the different counting, the different lay at the back. When you come to lead there are two ways to judge your timing:

1. Pulling backstroke in seconds place, watch all the other ropes and at your handstroke lead follow the last rope down the same as leading off the tenor in doubles; follow the last sally as you pull backstroke at lead (it won't be after the same bell!)
2. Later on, with a bit of practice, you can lead by rhythm.

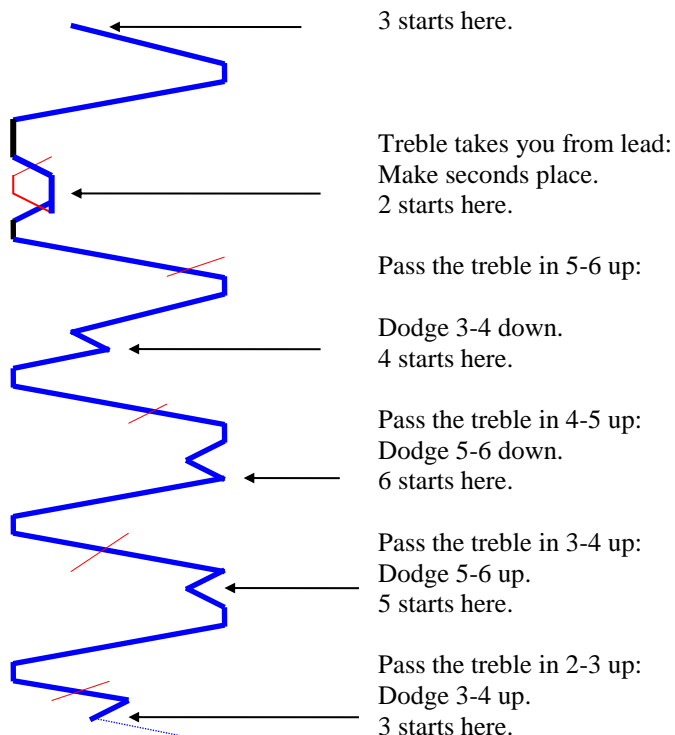
Ringling an inside bell, seconds place and dodging in 3-4 will be familiar, but there is no Long Fifths as in doubles. The extra bell gives us dodges in 5-6 as well as in 3-4. Write out plain hunt on six bells; as the treble comes to lead we have:

3 5 1 6 2 4	As the treble leads 3 makes seconds place.
3 1 5 2 6 4	2 dodges 3-4 down as 5 dodges 3-4 up.
1 3 2 5 4 6	4 dodges 5-6 down as 6 dodges 5-6 up
1 3 5 2 6 4	Then it is plain hunting until the treble
3 1 2 5 4 6	leads again. Keep doing this for five treble
3 2 1 4 5 6	leads and you should come back to rounds.

Bell Ringing by Instalments

Written by Peter D Wenham

Available from www.pdg.btck.co.uk



Joining all the 3's will give the Blue Line shown on the previous page. Study it and learn the order of work:

- Make seconds place
- Dodge 3-4 down
- Dodge 5-6 down
- Dodge 5-6 up
- Dodge 3-4 up

Think of this as a circle as we did for Bob doubles. You might start at any point on the circle, depending which bell you are ringing.

Remember that dodging 5-6 down you lay first then dodge; dodging 5-6 up you dodge first then lay.

Then study where you pass the treble before and after each piece of work. If you have a reliable treble it's a good guide - and if the treble should be wrong you will know where it should be and pass on to the next bell.



Bobs and Singles.

The bobs are made in the same way as in Bob doubles - run in, run out, or make the bob in fourths place. The bells dodging in 5-6 are unaffected.

At a bob:

If you were going to:	Instead you will:	And your next work is:
Dodge 3-4 down	Run in	Dodge 3-4 down
Make seconds place	Run out	Make seconds place
Dodge 3-4 up	Make the bob and lead again.	Dodge 5-6 down

In Plain Bob on six bells and upward we may also have singles. There is a new piece of work in singles; instead of dodging 3-4 down you make thirds place and **hunt up again**; this is called "Thirds and out".

At a single:

If you were going to:	Instead you will:	And your next work is:
Make seconds place	Make seconds place. (You are unaffected.)	Dodge 3-4 down
Dodge 3-4 down	Make thirds place and hunt up. ("Thirds and out")	Make seconds place over the treble.
Dodge 3-4 up	Make fourths place and lead again - the same as at a bob.	Dodge 5-6 down.

Again, the bells dodging in 5-6 are unaffected.

All these rules also apply to Plain Bob on the higher numbers. All bells above fourths place are unaffected.

Plain lead:

3 5 1 6 2 4
 3 1 5 2 6 4
 1 3 2 5 4 6
 1 3 5 2 6 4
 3 1 2 5 4 6
 3 2 1 4 5 6

Bob lead:

3 5 1 6 2 4
 3 1 5 2 6 4
 1 3 2 5 4 6
 1 2 3 5 6 4
 2 1 5 3 4 6
 2 5 1 4 3 6

Single lead:

3 5 1 6 2 4
 3 1 5 2 6 4
1 3 2 5 4 6
1 3 2 5 6 4
 3 1 5 2 4 6
 3 5 1 4 2 6

Making singles, note that when you make a place (seconds, thirds or fourths) at a single you strike twice (handstroke-backstroke) **over the same bell**.



Some more Plain Minor Methods.

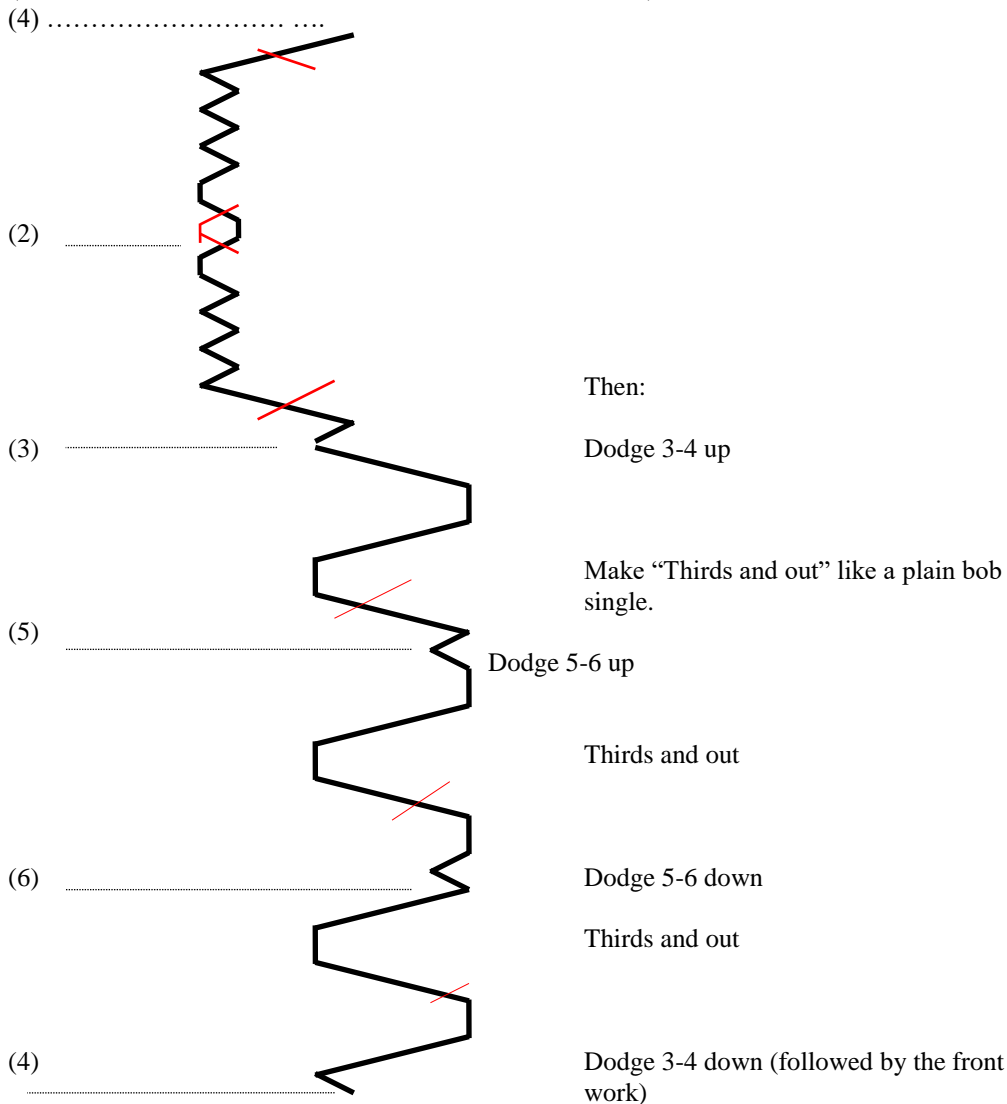
After Plain Bob there are many other minor methods with a plain hunting treble that will improve your ringing capabilities - and are fun to ring. A good method to follow-on from Plain Bob is St. Clements College Bob, which you can study from your “Diagrams” book - or from the diagrams in the “Ringing World” diary. (If you can already ring St Simons doubles you will recognise what happens in St Clements!)

St Clements College Bob Minor.

St Clements has a long “front work” which is best studied by following the blue line from where 4 starts - shown by “4” in a circle in the Diagrams book. The whole of the front work is to hunt down to lead and:

- Triple-dodge in 1-2 (handstrokes at lead)
- Lead full, seconds place over the treble, lead full.
- Triple-dodge in 1-2 up (backstrokes at lead).

(Note that 2 starts in the middle of the front work.)



Bell Ringing by Instalments

Written by Peter D Wenham

Available from www.pdg.btck.co.uk



Leaving the front work you dodge in 3-4 up (where 3 starts), hunting up to the back. Hunting down, you cannot go below thirds place because two bells are doing the front work, so you make thirds place and hunt up again, known as “Thirds and out”. (Like making the single in Plain Bob.) The next work is to dodge 5-6 up,(where 5 starts), then thirds and out, dodge 5-6 down, (where 6 starts) thirds and out, dodge 3-4 down, (where 4 starts by going into the front work).

Some tips for ringing St. Clements:

- The dodges in 3-4 and 5-6 happen in the reverse order to Bob minor - 3-4 up, 5-6 up, 5-6 down, 3-4 down.
- Note where you pass the treble when hunting up - the rules for when to dodge after passing the treble are the same as in Bob minor.
- Remember that in the front work, before the treble leads, your dodges are made with the handstroke at lead; after the treble has led your dodges are with the backstroke at lead.
- To keep count of your dodging on the front, after your first handstroke lead count three **backstrokes** before leading full. When you have led after the treble and are starting to dodge again , count three **backstrokes** (at lead) and then hunt up.
- Dodges on the front are with your course bell and after bell.

The calls in St Clements are made in the same way as Plain Bob, however what you do afterwards is different..

At a Bob:

Instead of:	You will now:	And your next work is:
Dodging 3-4 down	Run in. -	Second half of the front work - which is how 2 starts from rounds.
Making seconds place	Run out.	Hunt up , thirds and out, dodge 5-6 up - which is how 3 starts from rounds.
Dodging 3-4 up	Make the bob.	Start the front work all over again - which is how 4 starts from rounds.

If you know where each bell starts from rounds you can avoid a lot of bother with calls. Look at it this way:

- If you run in you come into seconds place on treble’s backstroke lead (you are now “seconds place bell”) - so your next work is how 2 starts from rounds.
- If you run out you come into thirds place on treble’s backstroke lead (“thirds place bell”) - so your next work is how 3 starts from rounds.
- If you make the bob you come into fourths place on treble’s backstroke lead (“fourths place bell”) - so your next work is how 4 starts from rounds.

Learning bobs this way - for any method - if you know how each bell starts from rounds you don’t need to learn any extra rules for bobs - or for singles. More will be said about “Place bells” later on.

Bell Ringing by Instalments

Written by Peter D Wenham

Available from www.pdg.btck.co.uk



For singles, again the same as Plain Bob:

At a Single:

Instead of:	You will:	And your next work is:
Dodging 3-4 down	Make thirds and out - which makes you thirds place bell.	As 3 starts from rounds.
Dodging 3-4 up	Make the bob (same as if a bob had been called)	As 4 starts from rounds (fourths place bell)
Making seconds place	Make seconds place (you are unaffected by a single)	No change - seconds place bell.

As with the bobs, if you learn your singles by which place you come into at the treble's backstroke lead, that is, by place bells, it becomes easier.

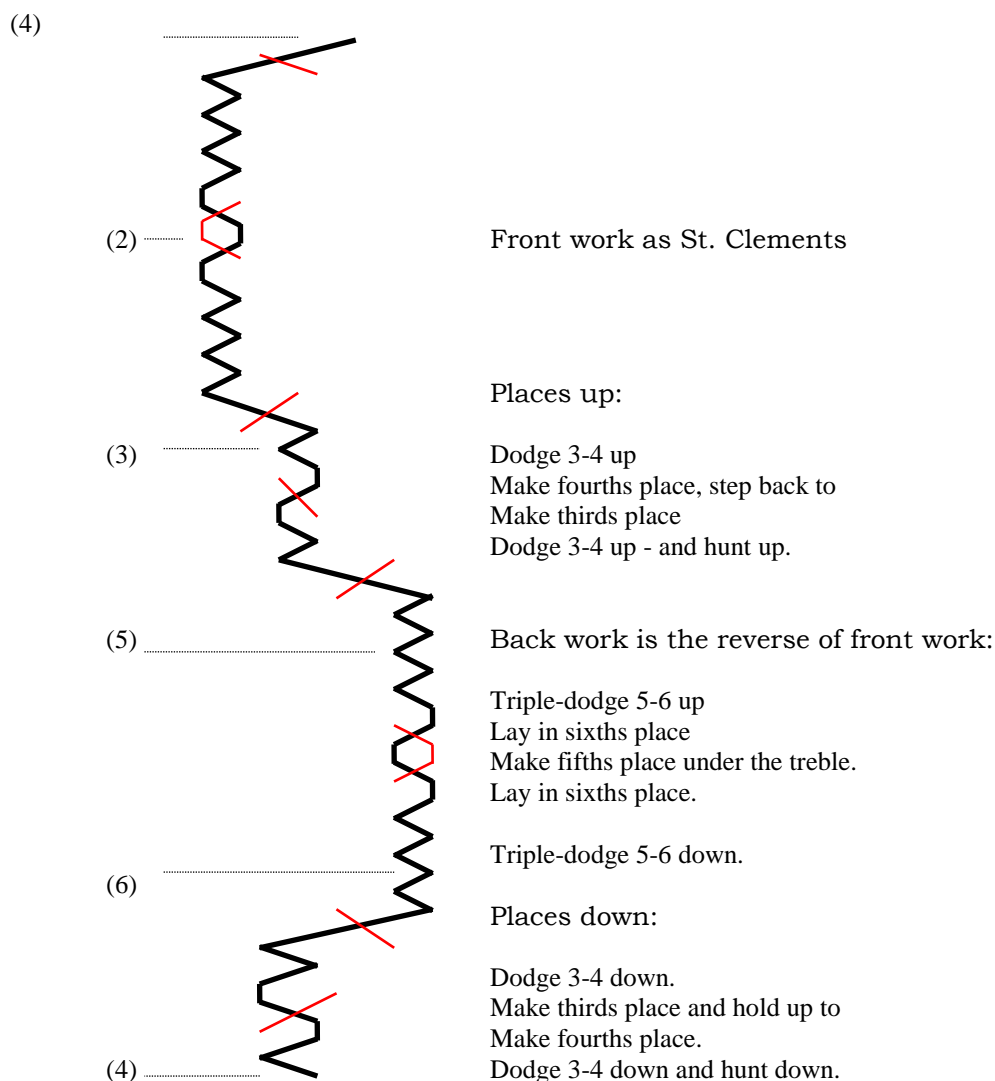


Double Oxford Bob Minor.

A method is “Double” when all the work done from the front is repeated in mirror image from the back. (Don’t confuse this “Double” with “Doubles” meaning “Rung on five bells”!)

Study the blue line in the Diagrams book. “Double Oxford” has the same front work as St. Clements; it also has back work in 5-6 that is the reverse of the front work. Look at the blue line to see that this is so. Therefore, as you already know the front work, learn it back to front and you have the back work.

The work in 3-4 is new, called “3-4 places”. These are made “up” when hunting up and “down” when hunting down. Look at both sets of places and you can see that one set is the reverse of the other.



Some tips:

Bell Ringing by Instalments

Written by Peter D Wenham

Available from www.pdg.btck.co.uk



- You pass the treble in 2-3 or in 4-5 each time you move between pieces of work.
- You always work with the treble in the middle of the front work and the back work.
- As you make the “step back” in the middle of 3-4 places the treble “runs through”.

Bobs and singles are as Plain Bob, so make sure you know the starts for 2, 3 and 4:

At a bob:

Instead of:	You will:	And the next work is:
Making seconds place	Run out - becoming thirds place bell.	Places up (no first dodge) - as 3 starts
Dodging 3-4 down (end of places down)	Run in - becoming seconds place bell.	Last part of front work - as 2 starts.
Starting places up	Make the bob (no dodging!) - becoming fourths place bell.	Start the front work all over again - as 4 starts.

At a single:

Instead of:	You will:	And the next work is:
Making seconds place	Make seconds place - you are unaffected.	Carry on with the front work.
Dodging 3-4 down (end of places down)	Make thirds place (“Make the single”)	Places up (no dodge) - as 3 starts.
Starting places up	Make the bob (fourths place)	Start the front work all over again - just the same as for a bob.

You will see that the bell making the single has the tricky work. After making the thirds and fourths places of its places down it makes thirds place (for the single) then fourths place, thirds place and dodge to finish places up. **There is no dodging in 3-4 at the single.** Count your places “Thirds, fourths, thirds, fourths, thirds, dodge 3-4 and up to backwork”. Also remember at the single to strike twice over the same bell.

Plain Lead:

2 4 6 1 3 5
4 2 1 6 5 3
4 1 2 6 3 5
1 4 6 2 5 3
1 4 2 6 3 5
4 1 6 2 5 3
4 6 1 2 3 5
6 4 2 1 5 3
4 6 2 5 1 3

Bob Lead:

2 4 6 1 3 5
4 2 1 6 5 3
4 1 2 6 3 5
1 4 6 2 5 3
1 6 4 2 3 5
6 1 2 4 5 3
6 2 1 4 3 5
2 6 4 1 5 3
6 2 4 5 1 3

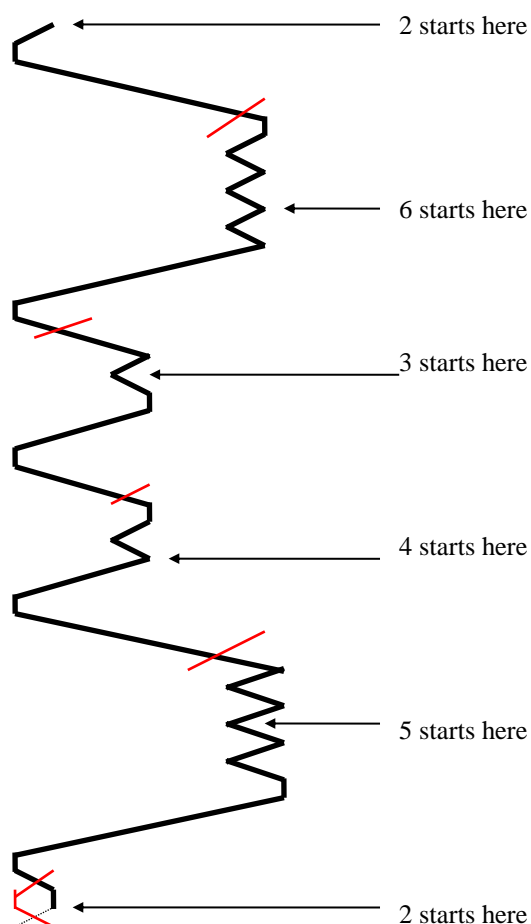
Single Lead:

2 4 6 1 3 5
4 2 1 6 5 3
4 1 2 6 3 5
1 4 6 2 5 3
1 4 6 2 3 5
4 1 2 6 5 3
4 2 1 6 3 5
2 4 6 1 5 3
4 2 6 5 1 3



Single Oxford Bob Minor.

Single Oxford is based on Plain Bob minimus, with the remaining two bells triple-dodging in 5-6.



Some ringers ring Single Oxford mainly by “where you pass the treble”, following the rules for Bob Minimus:

- Treble takes you from lead - make seconds place & lead again.
 - Pass the treble in 3-4 up - make fourths place **immediately**, dodge 3-4 down. (Your blow over the treble is the first blow in fourths place!)
 - Pass the treble in 2-3 up - dodge 3-4 up, make fourths place and hunt down.
- If you reach fourths place without passing the treble you will be triple-dodging in 5-6:
- Pass the treble in 4-5 up - triple dodge 5-6 up.
 - Turn treble from behind - triple-dodge 5-6 down.

Remembering to make the fourths places before or after the 3-4 dodging are the main pitfalls when first learning Single Oxford, so be prepared!

Bell Ringing by Instalments

Written by Peter D Wenham

Available from www.pdg.btck.co.uk



These places become even more of a trap when calls are made:

At a Bob:

Instead of:	You will now:	And the next work is:
Making seconds place:	Run out - becoming thirds place bell.	<u>Immediately make fourths place</u> and return to lead.
Dodging 3-4 down:	Run in - becoming seconds place bell. (Note, this is immediately after you have made fourths place!)	Triple-dodge 5-6 down.
Dodging 3-4 up:	Make the bob - becoming fourths place bell.	Return to lead, triple-dodge 5-6 up.

If you are triple-dodging in 5-6 you are unaffected.

At a single:

Instead of:	You will now:	And the next work is:
Making seconds place:	Make seconds place - you are unaffected.	Unaffected.
Dodging 3-4 down:	After making fourths place, make thirds place, becoming thirds place bell.	Make fourths place and return to lead.
Dodging 3-4 up:	Make fourths place - same as for a bob.	Return to lead, triple-dodge 5-6 up.

Again, the bells in 5-6 are not affected.

Remember that making the single is, effectively, "Fourths place - thirds place - fourths place".