



A GUIDE TO THE RANK AND TITLES OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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This is a rank and reference guide to the Uniformed Services of the United States of America. Every effort has been made to provide accurate and reliable information.

There are currently seven uniformed services: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps.

Capitalization is key!

All written rank capitalization should be strictly adhered to as presented in this guide.

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Armed Services



United States Army



	enlisted	Written Rank	Used in speaking
E-1	Private	PVT	private
E-2	Private 2nd class	PV2	private
E-3	Private First Class	PFC	private
E-4	Spec-4	SPC	specialist

	non-commissioned officers		
E-4	Corporal	CPL	corporal
E-5	Sergeant	SGT	sergeant
E-6	Staff Sergeant	SSG	sergeant
E-7	Sergeant First Class	SFC	sergeant
E-8	Master Sergeant	MSG	sergeant
E-8	First Sergeant	1SG	first sergeant
E-9	Sergeant Major	SGM	sergeant major
E-9	Command Sgt Major	CSM	sergeant major
special	Sgt Major of the Army	SMA	

USAR =
US Army Reserves

USA(R) or USA(Ret) =
US Army Retired

	warrant officers		
W-1	Warrant Officer 1	WO1	Mr./Ms. or "Chief"
W-2	Chief Warrant Officer 2	CW2	Mr./Ms. or "Chief"
W-3	Chief Warrant Officer 3	CW3	Mr./Ms. or "Chief"
W-4	Chief Warrant Officer 4	CW4	Mr./Ms. or "Chief"
W-5	Chief Warrant Officer 5	CW5	Mr./Ms. or "Chief"

	commissioned officers		
O-1	Second Lieutenant	2LT	lieutenant
O-2	First Lieutenant	1LT	lieutenant
O-3	Captain	CPT	captain
O-4	Major	MAJ	major
O-5	Lieutenant Colonel	LTC	colonel
O-6	Colonel	COL	colonel
O-7	Brigadier General	BG	general
O-8	Major General	MG	general
O-9	Lieutenant General	LTG	general
O-10	General	GEN	general
special	General of the Army	GA	general

special	Cadet	CDT	cadet
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United States Navy



	enlisted	Written Rank	Used in Speaking
E-1	Seaman Recruit	SR	seaman
E-2	Seaman Apprentice	SA	seaman
E-3	Seaman	SN	seaman

	non-commissioned officers		
E-4	Petty Officer 3rd Class	PO3	petty officer
E-5	Petty Officer 2nd Class	PO2	petty officer
E-6	Petty Officer 1st Class	PO1	petty officer
E-7	Chief Petty Officer	CPO	chief
E-8	Senior Chief Petty Officer	SCPO	senior chief
E-9	Master Chief Petty Officer	MCPO	master chief
special	Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy	MCPON	

	warrant officers		
W-1	Warrant Officer 1	WO1	Mr./Ms. or Warrant
W-2	Chief Warrant Officer 2	CWO2	Mr./Ms. or Warrant
W-3	Chief Warrant Officer 3	CWO3	Mr./Ms. or Warrant
W-4	Chief Warrant Officer 4	CWO4	Mr./Ms. or Warrant
W-5	Chief Warrant Officer 5	CWO5	Mr./Ms. or Warrant

USNR =
US Navy Reserves

USN(R) or USN(Ret) =
US Navy Retired

	commissioned officers		
O-1	Ensign	ENS	ensign
O-2	Lieutenant Junior Grade	LTJG	Mr./Ms.
O-3	Lieutenant	LT	lieutenant
O-4	Lieutenant Commander	LCDR	commander
O-5	Commander	CDR	commander
O-6	Captain	CAPT	captain
O-7	Rear Admiral (lower half)	RDML	admiral
O-8	Rear Admiral (upper half)	RADM	admiral
O-9	Vice Admiral	VADM	admiral
O-10	Admiral Chief of Naval Operations	ADM	admiral
special	Fleet Admiral	FADM	

special	Midshipman	MIDN	midshipman
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United States Marine Corps



	enlisted	Written Rank	Used in Speaking
E-1	Private	Pvt	private
E-2	Private First Class	PFC	private
E-3	Lance Corporal	LCpl	lance corporal

	non-commissioned officers		
E-4	Corporal	Cpl	corporal
E-5	Sergeant	Sgt	sergeant
E-6	Staff Sergeant	SSgt	sergeant
E-7	Gunnery Sergeant	GySgt	sergeant or "Gunny"
E-8	Master Sergeant	MSgt	master sergeant
E-8	First Sergeant	1stSgt	first sergeant or "Top"
E-9	Master Gunnery Sergeant	MGySgt	master gunnery sergeant
E-9	Sergeant Major	SgtMaj	sergeant major
special	Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps	SgtMajMarCor	

USMCR =
US Marine Corps
Reserves

USMC(R) or USMC(Ret) =
US Marine Corps Retired

	warrant officers		
W-1	Warrant Officer 1	WO	Chief
W-2	Chief Warrant Officer 2	CWO2	Chief
W-3	Chief Warrant Officer 3	CWO3	Chief
W-4	Chief Warrant Officer 4	CWO4	Chief
W-5	Chief Warrant Officer 5	CWO5	Chief

	commissioned officers		
O-1	Second Lieutenant	2ndLt	lieutenant
O-2	First Lieutenant	1stLt	lieutenant
O-3	Captain	Capt	captain
O-4	Major	Maj	major
O-5	Lieutenant Colonel	LtCol	colonel
O-6	Colonel	Col	colonel
O-7	Brigadier General	Bgen	general
O-8	Major General	MajGen	general
O-9	Lieutenant General	LtGen	general
O-10	General	Gen	general

special	Midshipman	Midn	midshipman or candidate
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United States Air Force



	enlisted	Written Rank	Used in Speaking
E-1	Airman Basic	AB	airman
E-2	Airman	Amn	airman
E-3	Airman First Class	A1C	airman

	non-commissioned officers		
E-4	Senior Airman	SrA	airman
E-5	Staff Sergeant	SSgt	sergeant
E-6	Technical Sergeant	TSgt	sergeant
E-7	Master Sergeant	MSgt	sergeant
E-8	Senior Master Sergeant	SMSgt	sergeant
E-9	Chief Master Sergeant	CMSgt	
E-9	Command Chief Master Sgt	CCM	
special	Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force	CMSAF	

USAFR =
US Air Force Reserves

USAF(R) or USAF(Ret) =
US Air Force Retired

	commissioned officers		
O-1	Second Lieutenant	2d Lt	lieutenant
O-2	First Lieutenant	1st Lt	lieutenant
O-3	Captain	Capt	captain
O-4	Major	Maj	major
O-5	Lieutenant Colonel	Lt Col	colonel
O-6	Colonel	Col	colonel
O-7	Brigadier General	Brig Gen	general
O-8	Major General	Maj Gen	general
O-9	Lieutenant General	Lt Gen	general
O-10	General Air Force Chief of Staff	Gen	general
special	General of the Air Force	GAF	

special	Cadet	Cadet	Cadet
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United States Coast Guard



	enlisted	Written Rank	Used in Speaking
E-1	Seaman Recruit	SR	Seaman
E-2	Seaman Apprentice	SA	Seaman
E-2	Fireman Apprentice	FA	Seaman
E-2	Airman Apprentice	AA	Seaman
E-3	Seaman	SN	Seaman
E-3	Fireman	FN	Seaman
E-3	Airman	AN	Seaman

	non-commissioned officers		
E-4	Petty Officer 3rd Class	PO3	petty officer
E-5	Petty Officer 2nd Class	PO2	petty officer
E-6	Petty Officer 1st Class	PO1	petty officer
E-7	Chief Petty Officer	CPO	chief petty officer
E-8	Senior Chief Petty Officer	SCPO	chief petty officer
E-9	Master Chief Petty Officer	MCPO	chief petty officer
E-9	Command Master Chief Petty Officer		

	warrant officers		
W-2	Chief Warrant Officer 2	CWO2	
W-3	Chief Warrant Officer 3	CWO3	
W-4	Chief Warrant Officer 4	CWO4	

USCGR =
US Coast Guard Reserves

USCG(R) or USCG(Ret) =
US Coast Guard Retired

	commissioned officers		
O-1	Ensign	ENS	ensign
O-2	Lieutenant Junior Grade	LTJG	Mr./Ms.
O-3	Lieutenant	LT	lieutenant
O-4	Lieutenant Commander	LCDR	commander
O-5	Commander	CDR	commander
O-6	Captain	CAPT	captain
O-7	Rear Admiral (lower half)	RDML	admiral
O-8	Rear Admiral (upper half)	RADM	admiral
O-9	Vice Admiral	VADM	admiral
O-10	Commandant of the Coast Guard	ADM	

special	Cadet	CDT	cadet
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Non-Combatant Uniformed Services



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

	commissioned officers	Written Rank	Used in Speaking
O-1	Ensign	ENS	Ensign
O-2	Lieutenant Junior Grade	LTJG	Mr./Ms.
O-3	Lieutenant	LT	Lieutenant
O-4	Lieutenant Commander	LCDR	Commander
O-5	Commander	CDR	Commander
O-6	Captain	CAPT	Captain
O-7	Rear Admiral (lower half)	RADM	admiral
O-8	Rear Admiral	RADM	admiral
O-9	Vice Admiral(Surgeon General)	VADM	admiral
O-10	Admiral (Asst. Sec for Health)	ADM	admiral



National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps

	commissioned officers	Written Rank	Used in Speaking
O-1	Ensign	ENS	Ensign
O-2	Lieutenant	LT	Lieutenant
O-3	Lieutenant Junior Grade	LTJG	Mr./Ms.
O-4	Lieutenant Commander	LCDR	Commander
O-5	Commander	CDR	Commander
O-6	Captain	CAPT	Captain
O-7	Rear Admiral (lower half)	RDML	admiral
O-8	Rear Admiral	RADM	admiral
O-9	Vice Admiral	VADM	admiral

Special note regarding uniformed medical and religious personnel:

It is most proper to refer to these members of the Uniformed Services by their rank - however, some (religious personnel especially) may prefer their vocational title. Stewardship practices should allow for meeting the constituent's preferences.

Please bring any discrepancies to the attention of:

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