

Each platoon is composed of a headquarters section and at least two or three squads, with two teams per **squad**. The key platoon personnel are as follows:

- *Platoon leader* – Cadet second lieutenant
- *Platoon sergeant* – Cadet first sergeant
- *Two or three squad leaders* – Cadet staff sergeant
- *Two team leaders* (if the number of enrolled Cadets permits) – Cadet sergeant
- *Four to six team members* – Cadet private to corporal



Figure 1.2.12

## Uniform Wear and History

### OVERVIEW

People wear uniforms to show they belong to an organization. Members of sports teams, marching bands, and people in a variety of jobs—from the ambulance driver and the doctor to the termite inspector and the airline pilot—wear distinctive garb to show they are part of a team, a profession, or an organization. When we see someone in uniform, we identify that person with an organization and its reason for being—its mission. The ambulance driver and the doctor represent health care; the termite inspector makes us think of pest control; the airline pilot signifies travel by air.

Every organization has **standards** that we expect from people in uniform, whether they are involved in sports, medicine, or transport. We expect our doctor to treat our ills competently, and the airline pilot to get us to our destination safely and on time. As a Cadet, your uniform represents standards and values that have evolved over many centuries.

Your JROTC uniform sets you apart from others and tells who and what you are. *Wear the JROTC uniform with pride!* Every part of the uniform has a place and a reason. Later in this lesson, you learn how to place insignias, awards, rank, and decorations on your uniform. First, however, take a look at the different types of JROTC uniforms.

## Key words

### squad:

The smallest unit in the Army organization composed of a varying number of personnel, depending on the type of element, and led by a noncommissioned officer

### standards:

Widely recognized and expected levels of value or measurement

# Army JROTC Uniforms



Figure 1.2.13



Figure 1.2.14



Figure 1.2.15

## Key words

### **Class A uniforms:**

A service uniform that consists of an Army blue coat, trousers or slacks, a long or short sleeve shirt, a black four-in-hand tie or neck tab; and other authorized accessories

### **Class B uniforms:**

A service uniform that is the same as the Class A uniform except the service coat is not worn; the black tie and black neck tab are required when wearing the long sleeve shirt; both tie and tab are optional with the short sleeve shirt

### **Army Combat Uniforms (ACU):**

A service uniform that consists of a jacket, trouser, and patrol cap in a universal camouflage pattern in addition to a moisture wicking t-shirt and Army combat boots (suede tan)

## **CLASS A UNIFORMS**

Figure 1.2.13 shows the Army Service Uniform (ASU)

### **Class A uniform.**

You wear it during ceremonies, social functions, formal inspections, and as required by your instructor.

## **CLASS B UNIFORMS**

Figure 1.2.14 shows the ASU **Class B uniform** for men and women. These

uniforms are worn during all occasions except field training and formal social occasions. The Class B uniforms are also worn at other times as required by your instructor.

## **ARMY COMBAT UNIFORMS**

Figure 1.2.15 shows the **Army Combat Uniform (ACU)**.

They are worn at summer camp and for participation on some special teams.

## UNIFORM WEAR

What is the first image that flashes into your mind when you think of someone in the military? Like most people, you probably pictured a person in uniform. The military uniform is more than just clothes. It is the public symbol of the nation's defense forces. It represents a long and honorable tradition of devotion to duty in the service of one's country. Therefore, the uniform should be worn proudly and—equally important—it should be worn properly.

How you wear the uniform reflects upon the nation's military—the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard. As a Junior ROTC Cadet, you will often be in the public eye. This means that you and your fellow Cadets must maintain a high standard of dress and personal appearance while wearing the uniform. The key elements are neatness, cleanliness, safety, and military image.

## HISTORY OF THE MILITARY UNIFORM

The English word *uniform* comes from a combination of two Latin words, *unus* and *forma*, which means "one form." In ancient times, the Roman togas provided a unique dress code. The toga is a loose outer garment worn by Romans appearing in public to show their status as citizens. It came in several styles. The *toga candida* was a white garment worn only by candidates for public office. The *toga palmata* was a fancy toga worn to ceremonial affairs. The *toga praetexta*, a white toga with a purple border, was worn only by emperors. The *toga sordida* was worn by mourners. Those who were not citizens typically wore a shorter garment, the *tunic*.

Military dress in ancient times acquired a certain degree of sameness, but in a much different sense from modern military uniforms. In Greece, Athenian and Spartan Soldiers dressed according to their position in military formations during the Peloponnesian War in the 5th century B.C. The Greek heavy infantryman wore a helmet, breastplate, and armor covering his legs below the knee. He also carried a shield and sword. The light-foot Soldier wore no armor and carried a lighter shield and a spear. These were military uniforms in the sense that all Soldiers looked alike. To this extent, therefore, we assign the origin of the military uniform to an early date in Western civilization.

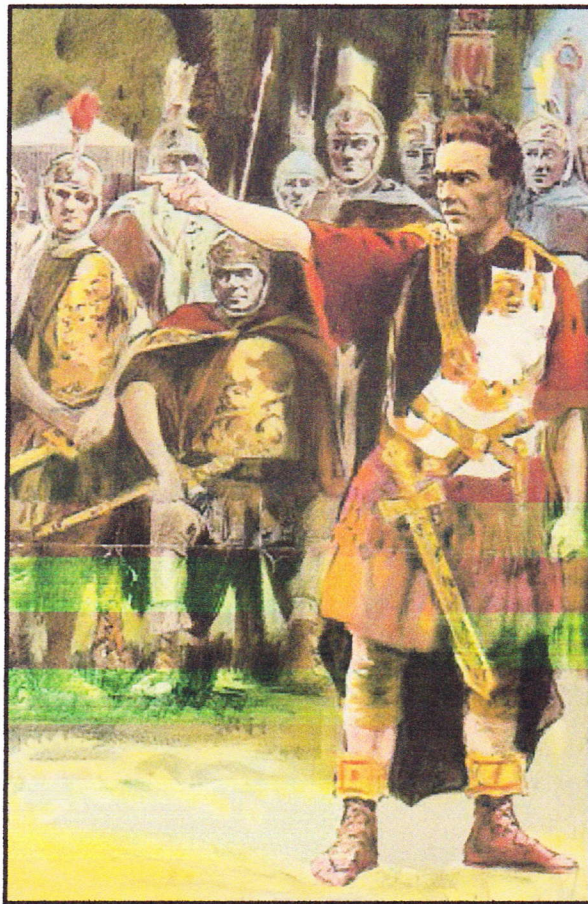


Figure 1.2.16

During the 15th and 16th centuries in Europe, national armies, wearing standardized uniforms, came into being. In the 17th century, during the Great Rebellion in England (1642-1646), the English Parliament decided to raise and support an army. The English uniform was red, with different colored facings for different regiments. These regiments were named by their facing's colors: blue, red, orange, etc. The uniform styles were really just a version of civilian dress. The uniform had an ample coat, waistcoat, knickers, stockings, and shoes or, in the case of cavalry, boots. Colors and standards were used to identify units. Wealthy leaders dressed the troops who served under them in distinctive and colorful uniforms.



Figure 1.2.17

## Purpose of Uniform Wear, Restrictions, and Standards

### OVERVIEW

JROTC Cadets generally wear the same uniform—the standard Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard service uniform—as worn by their parent military service. Cadets are expected to honor the uniform—to wear it properly and with pride.

The uniform is an important and distinctive aspect of JROTC. Whenever you wear the uniform—during indoor and outdoor training periods, at Cadet social functions, and during base visits—you represent the Army. How you wear the uniform exposes you to praise or criticism from fellow Cadets, fellow students, and society at large.



## Content Enhancement:

### RESTRICTIONS

Certain restrictions apply to wearing the military uniform. For example, Cadets may not wear the uniform while hitchhiking, in student demonstrations, for crowd control, political events, or for any other inappropriate activity. However, JROTC Cadets may wear the uniform while acting as ushers, parking lot attendants, runners, etc., at the discretion of the instructor staff.

Federal law bars military personnel from engaging in any form of public political activity—such as attending rallies and political speeches or passing out political flyers—while in uniform. In addition, military personnel are prohibited from publicly supporting a particular candidate, party, or political issue when it is clear to others that they are members of the U.S. military. The intent of the law is to avoid the perception that any military official supports one political cause, candidate, or party over another.

The role of the military requires absolute obedience to direction from elected civilian leaders, so public perception regarding the allegiance of military members is critical. Nevertheless, members of the military are also citizens who are actively encouraged to vote and participate in the processes of the governing of a democratic nation. They are allowed to place political bumper stickers on their own vehicles and/or signs on their private property. They can participate in political events as long as they are not in uniform and do not identify themselves as military members. Since JROTC Cadets wear a form of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard uniform, they should also follow this standard while in uniform.

Federal laws also forbid those in military uniform from participating in other public demonstrations where it might be implied that the military service supports a particular cause. Engaging in an activity that might imply endorsement by one of the services of a commercial interest or engaging in private employment while in uniform is also banned.

In addition, no item of the JROTC uniform may be worn by members of groups that sponsor a JROTC program. Cadet auxiliary societies, for example, may not create a special uniform that includes any item of the JROTC uniform. This includes school faculty, parent support groups, and sponsors other than JROTC instructors.



Figure 1.2.18

## DO'S AND DON'TS FOR WEARING THE VARIOUS SERVICE UNIFORMS

Here are a few general do's and don'ts about wearing the JROTC uniform.

### DO's



Wear the standard service uniform properly and with pride.



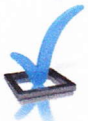
Wear the uniform on the day established by the instructor staff.



Wear the uniform at other times specified by the instructor staff.



Wear the uniform when you fly on military aircraft.



Wear the uniform when you participate in a color guard or on a drill team.



Keep your shoes polished and shined, including the heels and edges of soles.



Make sure your shoes are appropriate for the activity as specified by each service JROTC unit. Safety is the major concern.



Ensure that badges, insignia, belt buckles, and other metallic devices are clean and free of scratches and corrosion.



Keep ribbons clean and replace them when they become worn, frayed, or faded.



If your JROTC unit is at a military academy, wear the distinctive uniform required by the school for special occasions or ceremonies.

# Don'ts



Do not wear the uniform with other clothing.



Do not lend your uniform to anyone who is not a member of the JROTC program.



Do not allow articles such as wallets, pencils, pens, watch/wallet chains, checkbooks, handkerchiefs, and combs to be visible. You may allow parts of pens and pencils to be exposed when you carry them in the left shirt pocket or pen pocket of the ACU.



Do not wear earphones or headphones while in uniform, unless required.



Do not carry pagers or cell phones, unless required. (If required, they must be clipped to the waistband, in a purse, or be carried in the left hand when not in use.)



## Content Highlight: UNIFORM

It is your responsibility to maintain all uniform items in a clean and orderly condition during the school year and when you turn in your uniform. Just as the person on active duty, you are also obligated to wear the uniform properly and proudly.

### UNIFORM STANDARDS

All JROTC programs have the same general uniform standards. Most JROTC units have published information on the Cadet uniform and how to wear it, based on directives, handbooks, instructions, or regulations issued by a particular service. The Army JROTC standards for the uniform are found in the CCR 145-2. Please refer to it for current uniform standards.

It is your responsibility to maintain all uniform items in a clean and orderly condition during the school year and when you turn in your uniform. Just as the person on active duty, you are also obligated to wear the uniform properly and proudly. In doing so, you uphold the dignity of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, your unit, your fellow Cadets, and yourself.

With practice and attention to detail, all the do's and don'ts about the proper wear and care of the uniform and personal appearance will become almost automatic. You should be proud of the uniform and the way it looks. A smart appearance is important, not only in drill practice, but also in performing various school activities and attending military functions.

### Proper Care and Maintenance of Each Piece of the Uniform

#### GUIDELINES FOR CARE AND CLEANING OF YOUR JROTC UNIFORM

The following are some basic guidelines for the care and cleaning of your uniform.

- Place coats on hangers wide enough to keep the shoulders of the coat in shape. Do not use wire hangers.
- Keep shirts on hangers to prevent creasing.
- Clean and shine shoes and boots.
- Dry clean wool uniforms at a competent cleaner to remove stains or spots.



Figure 1.2.19

#### GUIDELINES FOR TAKING CARE OF BRASS ARTICLES

Articles made of brass need to be cleaned and shined on a regular basis. The following explains how to care for your brass items.

***Don't clean or polish any uniform accessory, particularly brass, while it is on your uniform. Remove the item, clean it, and then properly place it on your uniform.***

- Brightly polish the lapel insignia and belt buckle.
- Perspiration **tarnishes** brass on contact, so be careful when putting the insignia back on the uniform and when handling the belt buckle. One helpful hint is to wipe any brass with cleaning fluid to remove the extra polish. This avoids dulling the shine that you worked hard to get and slows down any corrosion.

## Key words

### **tarnish:**

To dull the luster of; discolor

## A PROPERLY FITTING JROTC UNIFORM

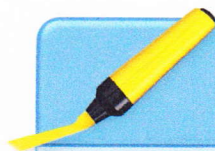
According to Army regulations on the wearing and appearance of uniforms, "all personnel will maintain a high standard of dress and appearance." This regulation means that your personal appearance in uniform should project the image to others that you are a part of one of the finest groups in the world.

Learning how to look your best in uniform takes time and effort. Your uniform must be **sized** and fitted to provide you comfort and a good appearance. Pants, shirts, or coats that do not fit will make you look less than what you truly are. Your pants should be hemmed to the required length, and your shirt and coat, issued by size, should also fit well.

## WHEN TO WEAR THE UNIFORM

You may wear the prescribed issued uniform in the United States and its possessions:

- During military ceremonies; this shows that you are a proud part of the Army JROTC program
- When attending or participating in JROTC activities such as on the prescribed uniform day at school, during formal inspections, while instructing Cadets in JROTC courses, and so on
- When traveling to and from school where you attend JROTC
- When visiting a military installation if you are taking part in drills, exercises, or summer camp
- When required by your instructors



### *Content Highlight:* **APPEARANCE AND GROOMING**

The standards for wearing the uniform consist of four elements: neatness, cleanliness, safety, and military image.

## **Cadet Appearance and Grooming Standards**

When you wear the uniform, you are responsible for presenting a neat, clean, and professional military image. Appearance and grooming standards help Cadets present the image of disciplined individuals who can be relied upon to do the job they are called on to do.

A professional military image has no room for the extreme, the unusual, or the faddish. The standards for wearing the uniform consist of four elements: neatness, cleanliness, safety, and military image. The first three are absolute, objective criteria for the efficiency, health, and well-being of the force. The fourth standard, military image, is also a very important aspect of military appearance. The Cadet uniform identifies you as a future leader in your community and the nation. By being active

## *Key words*

### **sized:**

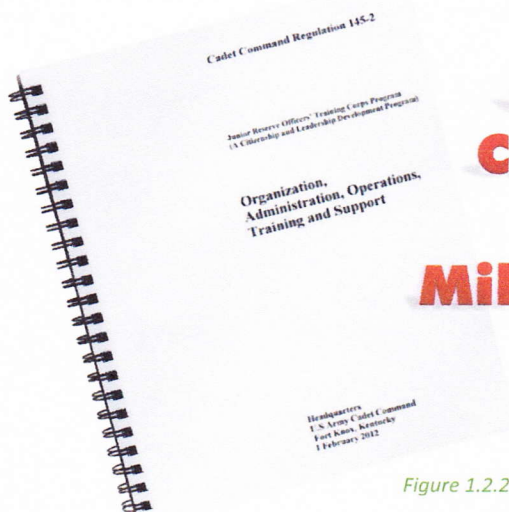
The physical dimensions, proportions, magnitude, or extent of an object; any of a series of graduated categories of dimension whereby manufactured articles, such as shoes and clothing, are classified

in your unit's community projects and other activities, you'll find that it will open doors to new opportunities, new friends, and new self-confidence.

If your uniform does not fit properly, talk to your instructor staff. Do not wait until someone else calls attention to it. Check the appearance of your uniform in a mirror. Remember that how you look influences others. Reflect the proper military image.

### **ADDITIONAL UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE RULES**

Additional guidelines regarding uniform and appearance (including male/female specific) can be found in CCR 145-2.



**Neatness  
Cleanliness  
Safety  
Military Image**

Figure 1.2.20

## **Army Rank and Grade Insignia**

Members of the military services perform duties that reflect their skill and pay grade. This also applies to JROTC Cadets. The higher the rank or grade, the more responsibility Cadets are given. In turn, Cadets are expected to perform their duties in accordance with this increased responsibility.

An insignia is a badge or mark of office or honor. Rank insignia identify the rank of each member of the armed forces. In each of the armed forces, the pay grade system is broken down into two categories: officer grades and enlisted grades. We will review the military services pay grade system and follow with the Army JROTC Cadet rank insignia.

### **U.S. MILITARY INSIGNIA OF GRADE**

#### **Officers**

Figure 1.2.21 (next page) shows the military pay grade abbreviation for each commissioned officer title. Use full titles for official written correspondence. Proper methods of address when speaking to officers are:

- "Lieutenant" for a second lieutenant and a first lieutenant
- "Colonel" for either a lieutenant colonel or a colonel
- "General" for all general officers

















	W-1	W-2	W-3	W-4	W-5
<b>WARRANT OFFICER</b>	 Warrant Officer	 Chief Warrant Officer	 Chief Warrant Officer	 Chief Warrant Officer	 Chief Warrant Officer
<b>OFFICER</b>	<b>O-1</b>	<b>O-2</b>	<b>O-3</b>	<b>O-4</b>	<b>O-5</b>
	 Second Lieutenant	 First Lieutenant	 Captain	 Major	 Lieutenant Colonel
	<b>O-6</b>	 Colonel			
	<b>O-7</b>	<b>O-8</b>	<b>O-9</b>	<b>O-10</b>	<b>SPECIAL</b>
	 Brigadier General	 Major General	 Lieutenant General	 General	 General of the Army

Figure 1.2.21

## Enlisted

Enlisted ranks are subdivided into two categories: noncommissioned officer (NCO) and junior enlisted ranks. NCOs are personnel serving in the ranks of corporal through command sergeant major. NCOs play such an important role in enlisted leadership that there are several distinct military rank insignia to identify them (see Figure 1.2.22).

The NCO chevron has changed a great deal since the Continental Army, when a brightly colored ribbon tied around the arm identified NCOs. Through the years, the American NCO's **chevron** has varied in design and has been worn in different locations. It has been worn not only above the elbow, as it is today, but also below the elbow.

## Key words

### chevron

Insignia consisting of stripes meeting at an angle to indicate (enlisted) grade or rank













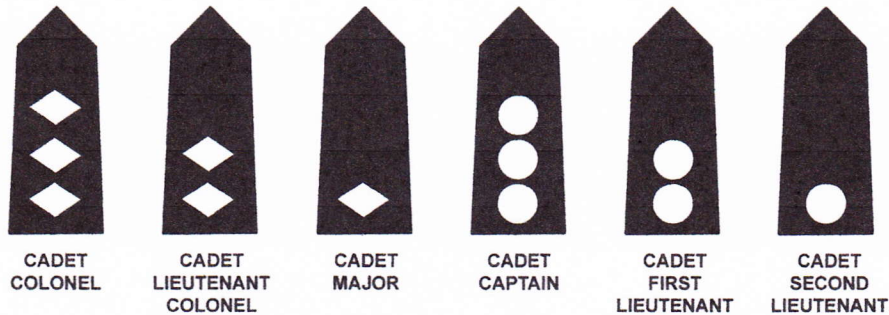
	E-1	E-2	E-3	E-4	E-5	E-6
<b>ENLISTED</b>	<b>no insignia</b> Private E-	 Private E-2	 Private First Class	 Corporal	 Specialist	 Sergeant
						 Staff Sergeant
	<b>E-7</b>	<b>E-8</b>	<b>E-9</b>	<b>Senior Enlisted Advisor</b>		
	 Sergeant First Class	 Master Sergeant	 First Sergeant	 Sergeant Major	 Command Sergeant Major	 Sergeant Major of the Army

Figure 1.2.22

## Cadets

Figure 1.2.23 shows the rankings for the officer and NCO personnel in the Army JROTC.

### INSIGNIA OF GRADE FOR CADET OFFICERS



### INSIGNIA OF GRADE FOR CADET ENLISTED PERSONNEL

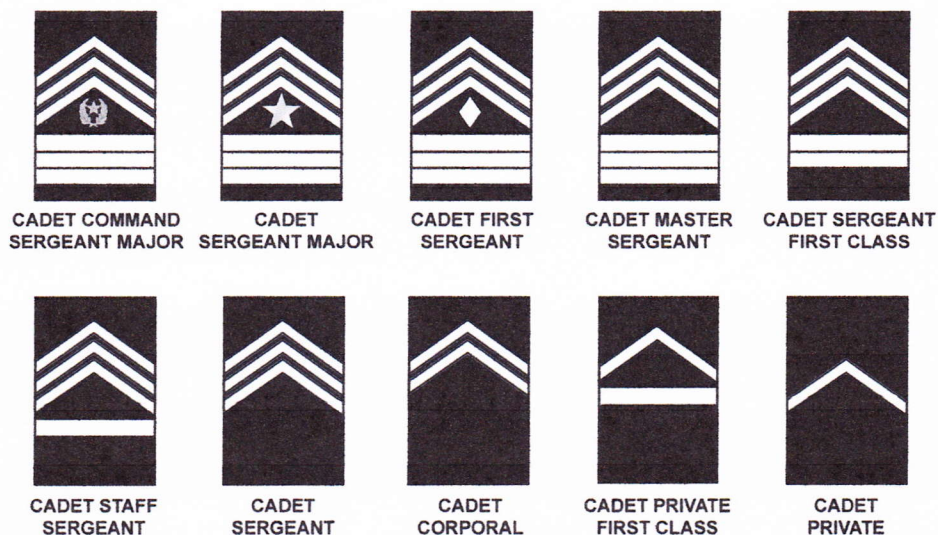


Figure 1.2.23

## Placement of Uniform Awards, Insignias, and Decorations

### OVERVIEW

Insignia is a way to show your advancement in JROTC. Insignia can include a badge, medal, or other mark of honor or position. These can also represent your military branch and indicate a duty assignment. Depending on the type of insignia, where it's placed on your uniform is important. This section covers many insignia as well as the proper placement.

## THE ARMY BERET

The head gear worn will be determined by which uniform you receive. Before positioning the appropriate Cadet officer or Cadet enlisted insignia on the **gray beret**, you should first know how to wear it.



Figure 1.2.24

The beret is worn so that the headband (edge binding) is straight across the forehead, one inch above the eyebrows. The flash is positioned over the left eye, the excess material is draped over to the right ear, extending to at least the top of the ear, and no lower than the middle of the ear.

Personnel will cut off the ends of the adjusting ribbon and secure the ribbon knot inside the edge binding at the back of the beret. When worn properly, the beret is formed to the shape of the head; therefore, hairstyles that cause distortion of the intended shape of the beret may not be worn. The beret is equipped with a stiffener on the left front for attaching organizational flashes and insignia.

## INSIGNIA OF GRADE

To wear the grade insignia on long or short sleeve JROTC shirts, you normally wear **shoulder marks** (rank or shoulder boards). For Cadet officers, place the narrow, pointed end toward the collar, and the flat end toward the edge of the shoulder. For enlisted Cadets, place the side with the pointed chevron (stripe) toward the collar. This is shown in Figure 1.2.25.

In some units, Cadets may wear **nonsubdued** pin-on grade insignia on both shirt collars or pinned to *blank* shoulder marks. As seen in Figure 1.2.26, place these insignia centered on the collar, with the centerline of the insignia **bisecting** the point of each collar and one inch up from the edge of the collar point.

### Wear of Insignia

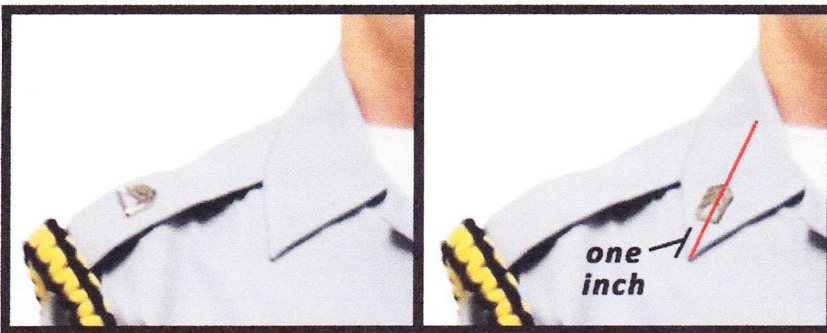


Figure 1.2.25

Figure 1.2.26

The area of both shirt pockets is where you place your nameplate, honor unit insignia, and personal awards. For female Cadets, the pocket area (because those shirts do not have pockets) is where you also position these items. Imagine a horizontal line one to two inches above the top

## Key words

### gray beret:

Headgear that may be worn with the Class A or B uniforms

### shoulder marks:

A pair of broad pieces of stiffened cloth worn on the shoulders of the class A or B uniforms to display the insignia of grade. Blank shoulder marks do not display an insignia of grade so that pin-on insignia may be used instead

### nonsubdued:

Bright and shining, not dull or flat, such as polished brass pin-on insignia

### bisecting:

To cut or divide into two equal parts

button on your shirt. This imaginary line allows you to properly align your awards, insignia, and nameplate in the same manner as male Cadets do.

### **NAMEPLATE**

Center the nameplate on the right pocket between the top pocket seam and the top of the pocket buttonhole (see Figure 1.2.27). On the female uniform, center the nameplate horizontally on the right side with the bottom of the nameplate on the imaginary line (see Figure 1.2.28).

#### **Wear of Nameplate**

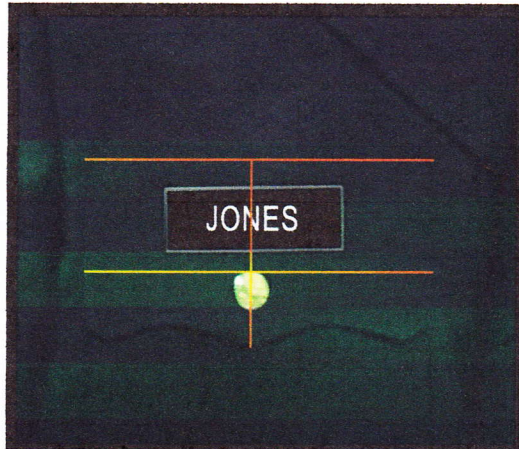


Figure 1.2.27



Figure 1.2.28

### **HONOR UNIT INSIGNIA**

Center the Honor Unit Star one-quarter of an inch above the top seam of the right pocket. On a female uniform, the Honor Unit star should be one-quarter inch above the nameplate and centered. You can wear the Honor Unit Star either by itself or joined with the Academic Achievement Wreath. In either case, you center them as described.

### **AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Position individual awards for academic, athletic, and military excellence on the left pocket (or left pocket area); however, you cannot wear both the ribbon and the medal for the same award at the same time.

Center your ribbons on the pocket button one-eighth of an inch above the top seam of the left pocket (centered above the horizontal line for female Cadets). Place awards of this type no more than three across. Do not start a second row until you have four or more ribbons; also, the first and second rows must have the same number before you can start a third row. Center the top row on the row beneath it. Wear your ribbons in order of precedence from top to bottom and from your right to left in one or more rows (see Figure 1.2.29, next page).

## Wear of Ribbons

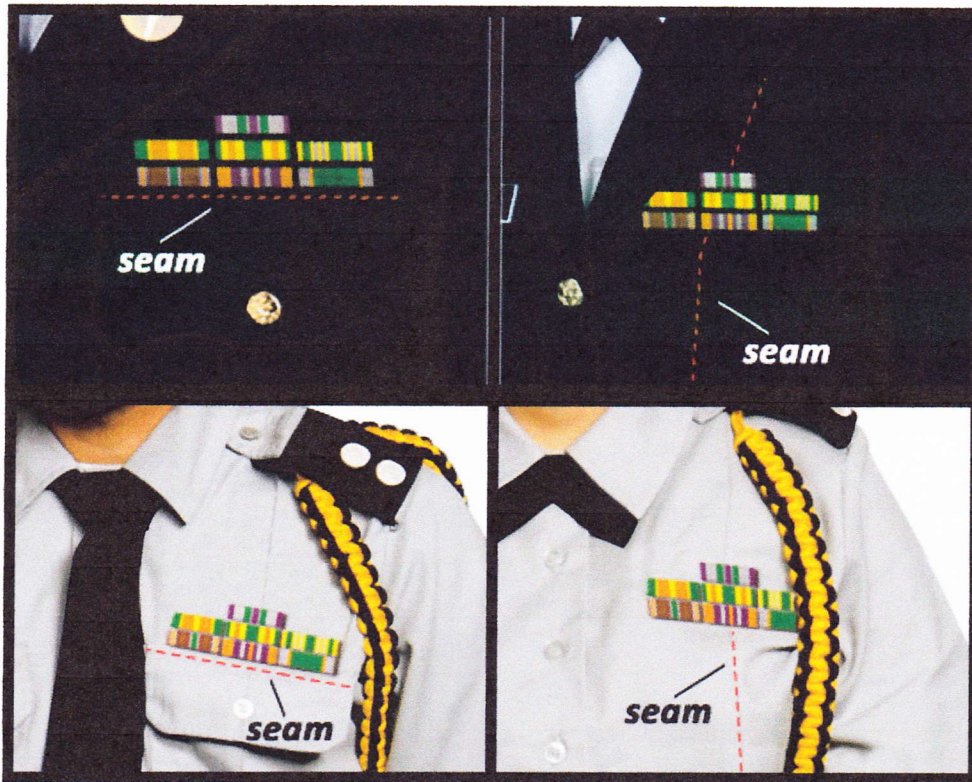


Figure 1.2.29

Wear medals and place badges for excellence in marksmanship one-eighth of an inch below the top seam on the left pocket flap (or in a similar position for female uniforms), again in the order of precedence from your right to left.

When not wearing medals, center your badge or badges, or space them equally from left to right on your pocket flap. The upper portion of the badge or badges should be one-eighth of an inch below the top seam of the left pocket. If you only have one medal or badge, center it from left to right on your left pocket flap. Place the top of it one-eighth of an inch below the top seam of the pocket.

Wear two medals or badges equally spaced from left to right on the left pocket flap. Keep the top portion of them one-eighth of an inch below the seam, at least one inch between them, and special skill badges to the right. *Figure 1.2.30* shows how to wear two medals or badges.

## Wear of Medals and Badges



Figure 1.2.30

## Key words

### **ferrule:**

A decorative metal cap attached to the end of a shoulder cord to prevent fraying; a metal ring or cap attached to the end of a staff or handle to give strength or to protect it against splitting

### **military awards:**

Recognition given to individuals for participating in JROTC-sponsored activities, or for leadership excellence

If you are wearing a special medal with one or more marksmanship badges, equally space all awards (but not more than three) from left to the right on the left pocket flap. Place the upper portion of the medals one-eighth of an inch below the top pocket seam. Wear the special medal to your right of any marksmanship badges.

These same rules apply for female Cadets, except wear medals and/or marksmanship badges one-quarter of an inch below the bottom row of ribbons.

## **MISCELLANEOUS UNIFORM ACCESSORIES**

The instructor staff may authorize you to wear shoulder cords for participation in certain JROTC activities, including the color/honor guard, drill team, and rifle team. Wear one cord by itself on the left shoulder, and any other cord on the right shoulder. When wearing cords with a **ferrule** (metal tip), keep the ferrule to the front; otherwise, wear these cords based on the procedures of your local unit.

## **Components of Individual Award Categories**

### **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

Each Army JROTC unit can award various types of individual awards to its Cadets for recognition of excellence, outstanding achievement, or superior performance. There are two main categories of individual awards: institutional and national awards.

#### **Institutional Awards**

Superintendents, principals, and Army instructors can present institutional awards to individual JROTC Cadets for reasons of academic excellence, military and athletic achievement or performance, participation in community parades, excelling in recruiting programs, and other reasons that are determined by your instructors. You have the opportunity to earn as many of these awards as you possibly can.

The following is the order of merit (or importance) for these awards along with the number of ribbons available for each type. Within each category, you wear these awards (or ribbons) in their numerical order.

1. Academic Awards – 10 ribbons
2. **Military Awards** – 15 ribbons
3. Athletic Awards – 5 ribbons
4. Miscellaneous Awards – 5 ribbons

#### **National Awards**

National awards recognize individual JROTC Cadets for heroic, distinguished, meritorious, and other commendable acts and achievements.

#### **Army JROTC Awards**

JROTC offers numerous awards to those who are willing to go above and beyond the minimum effort asked of them. As mentioned earlier in this lesson, these categories include academic, military, athletic, and