

NAVY UNIFORM NEWSGRAM

Service Uniform Focus

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Navy Uniforms News

Shipmates, welcome back to Navy Uniform News. In our last Newsgram we discussed the Navy Working Uniform (NWU). To continue our discussion of the Navy's newest uniforms, we dedicate this edition to the E1 through E6 Service Uniform (SU).

The SU is possibly the most popular uniform ever with our E1 through E6 Sailors. The two-year rollout will be complete July 2010, but we sometimes receive questions concerning the manner of wear of the SU. So let's take a few moments and revisit the components of this uniform.

Uniform Components

The Cap is a black, unisex garrison cap. It is worn squarely on the head with the fore and aft crease centered between the eyebrows, with the forward end lower edge of the cap approximately 1 inch above the eyebrows. Petty Officer's E4 through E6 must wear the large metal rank insignia on the left side of the cap positioned with the center of the device 1 1/2 inches from the bottom edge of the cap and 2 inches from the forward edge of the cap with the eagle facing forward.



The Shirt and Overblouse are khaki color, short sleeve, 75/25 polywool blend. The shirt is worn tucked into the pants by males while the overblouse, as the name implies, is worn bloused over the pants or skirt when worn by females.



The miniature collar devices are worn by E2 through E6 personnel centered 1 inch from the front and lower edges of the collar and positioned on the vertical axis of the insignia along an imaginary line bisecting the angle of the collar point with the eagle facing forward. The white T-Shirt is mandatory for males and optional for females.



The pants and skirt are both black, 75/25 Poly/wool blend. Males wear pants with a black belt and silver buckle. Females wear beltless pants or the optional skirt. Pants should be hemmed in the back to top of the heel of the shoe and hemmed in the front to at least the third eyelet of the shoes.



The Shoes. Only black service shoes are authorized with the SU. Pumps are authorized as optional wear for females. Black socks are worn with the shoes.

United States Navy Personnel ...

must set and maintain the highest standards of personal appearance. The military image reflected by attention to detail, while wearing your uniforms, is a key element in establishing a positive public image for our Navy.

*Navy Uniform Regulations
Chapter 2, Section 1, Paragraph 2101.3*

The Jacket shall be worn zipped at least 3/4 the length of the jacket. E4 through E6 personnel shall wear the large rank insignia on each epaulette. The insignia shall be positioned 3/4 inch from the bottom of the epaulette centered from side to side with the eagle facing forward. Gold chevrons shall be worn by Sailors who qualify. This is the same size rank insignia worn on the Garrison Cap.



Note: Female Sailors shall gently “roll” the blouse up and under the jacket or sweater as to not be visible below the bottom of the jacket or sweater.

Please note, the black pointed collar jacket (without epaulettes) is not authorized to be worn with Service Uniforms.

For additional uniform reference material please visit:
<http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/USNavyUniforms>

Did you know?

Did you know that you can mount your large medals just like the professionals?

For 1-3 medals you can use a mounting a bar for mounting medals. For 4 or more you can use a mounting card found in your Navy Uniform Center. It takes a little effort and practice but you can do it. Ask your Navy Uniform Center representative for the “Instamedal Mounting Card”.

When mounting, refer to Navy Uniform Regulations Chapter 5, Section 3, Paragraph 5314.

Did You Know?

While in uniform, only one bracelet and one wristwatch may be worn. Ankle bracelets are not authorized while in uniform.

*Navy Uniform Regulations
Chapter 2, Section 2, Paragraph 2201.6.e*

Frequently Asked Questions:

Thank you for the many questions submitted to "Ask the Master Chief." We make every attempt to answer your questions in a timely manner. Here are just a few questions recently received.

Butterfly Clips:

...about 2 years ago, I recall a Newsgram regarding the wear of "butterfly clips" for women. Are they authorized?

ET1(SW/AW) Shannon M. Kein

Answer:

ET1 Kein, per U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations Chapter 2, paragraph 1.b, "...a maximum of two small barrettes/combs/clips, similar to hair color, may be used in the hair. Additional bobby pins or rubber bands matching hair color may be used to hold hair in place, if necessary. Fabric elastics and colored rubber bands/pins are not authorized. Hair ornaments shall not present a safety or FOD (Foreign Object Damage) hazard. Hair nets shall not be worn unless authorized for a specific type of duty." Therefore, "butterfly clips" are authorized for wear if they meet the color and size requirements stated above.

- *UMO CMC*

Coveralls:

What is the current and/or future status of the Coveralls? Have they been officially replaced by the NWU?

DCC (SS/SW) David Johnston

Answer:

DCC Johnston, Coveralls will not be replaced by the NWU. Blue Coveralls continue to be issued as part of the Sea Bag.

You may know that there are also Green Coveralls issued as Organizational Clothing.
- *UMO CMC*

Your leadership hears your Navy Uniform ideas AND ACTS!

Ball Caps:

Can the Ball Cap be worn with the NWU?

HM2 (AW/SW) Omar A. Garcia

Answer: Petty Officer Garcia, in general, ball caps are not authorized to be worn with the NWU. However, the CNO recently approved a policy modification that allows ball caps to be worn with the NWU and Camouflage uniforms during specific evolutions where identifying designated members of command training and watch teams is required. Specifics of this policy were announced recently via NAVADMIN.

Cover for Aircrewmembers:

With the new uniforms coming out... what do the E-6 and below aircrewmembers wear for a cover?

AWF1 Nill

Answer:

Petty Officer Nill, the CNO has recently authorized the Black Garrison Cap to be worn with the flight suit. The Navy/Command Ball Cap will continue to be authorized for wear with the flight suit.

NWU Undershirt:

"Good morning...I have recently started wearing the NWU. My suggestion is that the undershirt for coveralls be changed to the blue undershirt of the NWU..."

ETCS (SW) Gary Ullrich

Answer:

The CNO has authorized the Blue T-Shirt (in place of the white T-shirt) as a "basic" component for the Navy coveralls beginning 1 January 2011. The shift to the Blue T-shirt is executed on 1 January 2011 to align with the mandatory wear date of the Navy Working Uniform, when all Sailors must have the NWU in their Sea Bag.

Frequently Asked Questions cont:

Uniform Regulations Updates:

“How often is the Navy Uniform Regulations manual updated?”

- *from CNP Trip to Pacific*

Answer:

Navy Uniform Regulations Updates are scheduled to occur quarterly. The Webpage is updated first, followed by the CD ROM. The most recent Web update was 01 MAR 2010. The CD ROM will follow.

- *UMO CMC*

Tracking Uniform NAVADMINs:

“Why are there so many uniform related NAVADMIN messages for commands to keep track of just to remain current on uniform matters?”

- *from CNP Trip to Pacific*

Answer:

Navy Uniform Update NAVADMINs provide the quickest means to inform personnel of the latest CNO approved changes. These messages also provide important background that may not be appropriate for inclusion in Navy Uniform Regulations. After release of the announcing NAVADMIN, the material in the NAVADMIN is posted on the Navy Uniform Matters website, <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/USNavyUniforms>, which lists the active uniform related messages. Finally, the uniform changes are incorporated into a quarterly update of Navy Uniform Regulations (on above website and CDROM).

- *UMO CMC*

Sometimes the right person for the job shows up at the right time. The Navy Uniform Matters Office was the right place and CMDCM (SW/AW) Arthur Rivers was the right person. Master Chief Rivers ushered in the largest uniform shifts in the history of the United States Navy. The SU, PTU and NWU. Master Chief, thank you for your leadership during an extraordinary time and thank you for your 30 years of outstanding Naval Service. Enjoy your transition to civilian life. “Fair Winds and Following Seas.”

Shipmate Going Ashore!

