

CWO2
Survival Guide for
Uniforms

Upon acceptance of Warrant Officer status many are often confused as to what uniforms are needed and or required. This guide should help resolve many of those concerns. When you bring your jackets to a tailor, feel free to make a copy of the instructions provided in this guide for them to use.

While the following uniforms are considered as required, you may not need some of them; before procuring new uniforms you should first contact your individual unit to find out what duties will be required.

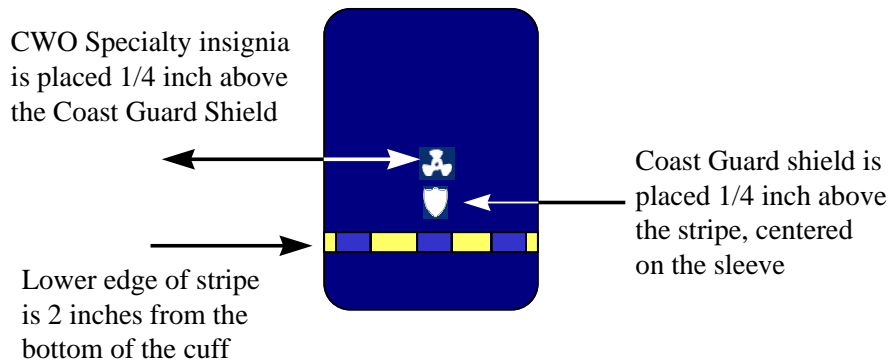
- Working Blue Uniform
- Undress Blue Uniform
- Winter Dress Blue Uniform
- Tropical Blue Long Uniform
- Service Dress Blue (B) Uniform
- Service Dress Blue (A) Uniform
- Service Dress White Uniform
- Full Dress White Uniform
- Full Dress Blue Uniform
- Dinner Dress Blue Uniform
- Dinner Dress White Uniform

Outfitting Your New Uniform

When you remove your sleeve device from your service dress blue coat, it will be noticeable. Therefore, it is recommended that you purchase a new one.

Attach sleeve insignia as follows:

- The lower edge of the lace (stripe) shall be 2 inches from the edge of the cuff.
- The Chief Warrant Officer breaks (blue) in the lace shall be centered on the outer face of the sleeve.
- The embroidered gold shield insignia shall be worn on both sleeves ¼ inch above the lace sleeve stripes, centered with the blue break.
- Chief warrant officers shall wear the specialty insignia on the sleeves of the dress blue coat and dinner dress blue jacket (aka mess dress). The Chief Warrant Officer Specialty Insignia is worn on the sleeves of the dress blue coat and the dinner dress blue/white jacket as shown below.



The following are descriptions of Chief Warrant Officer Specialty insignia, they are worn as shown; when the word “front” appears, it means, when worn the portion of the device will point inward.



Aviation Engineering: two bladed vertical propeller embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the wings parallel to the stripe.



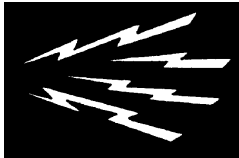
Boatswain: two crossed fouled anchors embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the crowns down.



Naval Engineering: three bladed propeller embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with two blades down.



Finance & Supply: a sprig of three oak leaves embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the longer dimension parallel to the stripe, stem down and to the front.



Communications: four lightning bolts embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the longer dimension parallel to the stripe, narrow end of the device to the front.



Material Maintenance: a carpenter's square embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the right angle down and the arm inscribed with measurement lines to the front.



Medical Administration: a caduceus embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the staff perpendicular to the stripe.



Bandmaster: a lyre embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the longer dimension perpendicular to the stripe and the base down.



Physician's Assistant: a caduceus with sprigs of oak leaves and acorns at the base.



Port Safety & Security: a diamond shaped emblem with a law enforcement badge in its center.



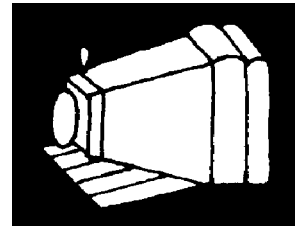
Electronics: a helium atom embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the horizontal electron orbit parallel to the stripe; diagonal electron orbit with bottom to the front.



Personnel Administration: two crossed quill pens embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the nibs down.



Weapons: a flaming spherical shell embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve with the flame upward.



Public Information: a camera embroidered in gold placed on the sleeve in an upright position with the bottom parallel to the stripe and lens aperture to the front. Shoulder Insignia

SHOULDER INSIGNIA

Officer's shoulder insignia shall consist of hard shoulder boards, enhanced shoulder boards, or metal grade insignia.

CWO shoulder boards consist of gold stripes with blue break(s), gold shield and specialty insignia on a blue cloth background. The width of the blue break(s) is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. The stripe starts $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the end of the board. The stripes, shield, and specialty insignia are placed on the shoulder board in the same manner as the sleeves of the service dress blue coat.

HARD SHOULDER BOARDS

Hard shoulder boards are longer than enhanced ones and include a pointed end with a gold button. They are available in either the full or $\frac{3}{4}$ size (available for individuals with smaller shoulders).

Hard shoulder boards shall be worn on the following uniforms:

- Service Dress White
- Full Dress White
- Dinner Dress White Jacket
- Reefer coat
- Overcoat
- Bridge coat

ENHANCED SHOULDER BOARD

Enhanced shoulder boards are available in full or ¾ size (available for individuals with smaller shoulders).

Enhanced shoulder boards shall be worn on the following:

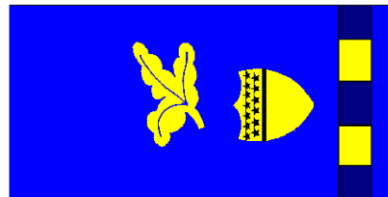
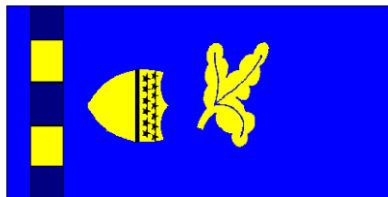
- All shirts with epaulets, except undress blue.
- Woolly-pully sweater

Chief Warrant Officers will wear shoulder boards as shown below; hint, some CWOs place a piece of tape with an R and L underneath each board.

Right Shoulder

Left Shoulder

Back



Front

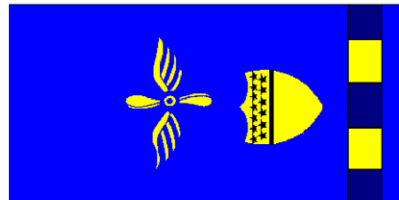
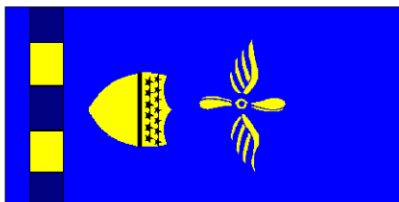
Finance & Supply

The stem tip always is worn pointing forward.

Right Shoulder

Left Shoulder

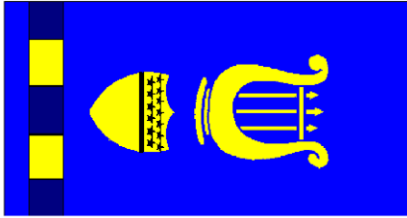
Back



Front

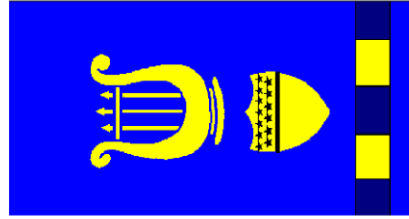
Aviation Engineering

Right Shoulder



Back

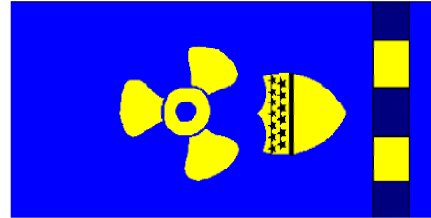
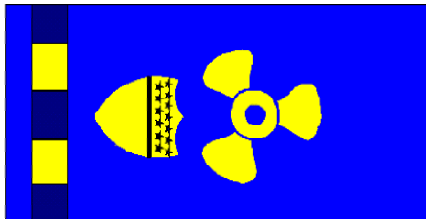
Left Shoulder



Front

Bandmaster

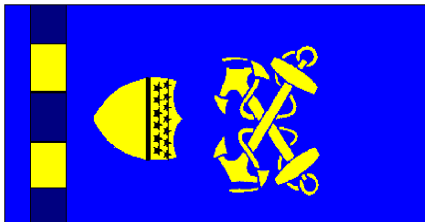
Back



Front

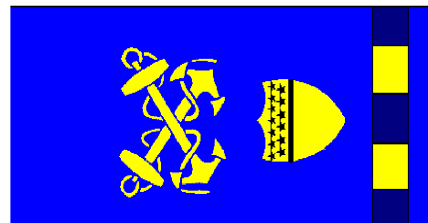
Naval Engineering

Right Shoulder



Back

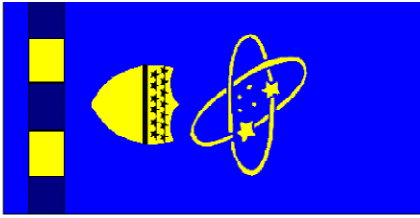
Left Shoulder



Front

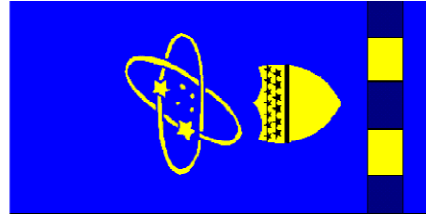
Boatswain

Right Shoulder



Back

Left Shoulder

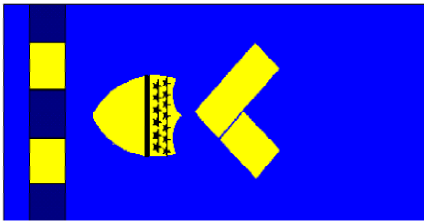


Front

Electronics

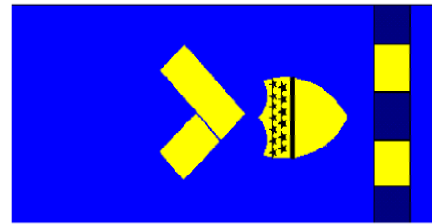
The diagonal electron orbit is always towards the front.

Right Shoulder



Back

Left Shoulder

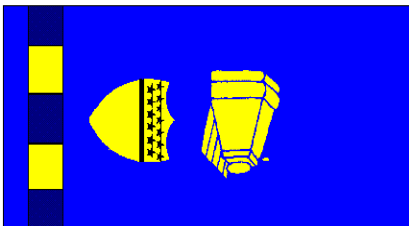


Front

Material Maintenance

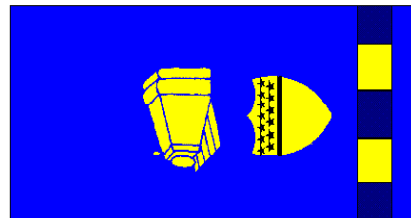
The arm inscribed with the measurement lines is always to the front.

Right Shoulder



Back

Left Shoulder

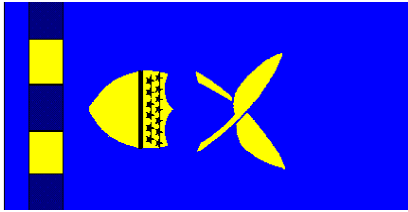


Front

Public Information

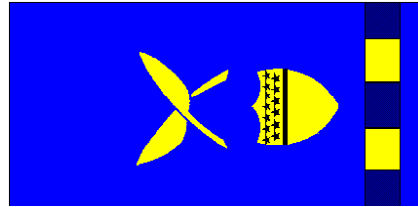
The lens aperture always points to the front.

Right Shoulder



Back

Left Shoulder

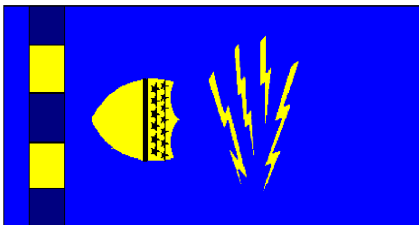


Front

Personnel Administration

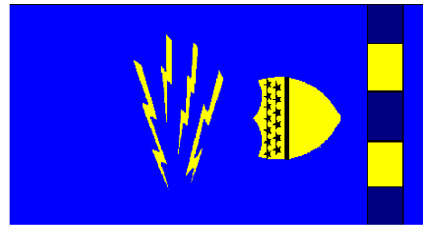
While Navy regulations state that the overlapping quill points towards the front, this does not hold true for the Coast Guard.

Right Shoulder



Back

Left Shoulder

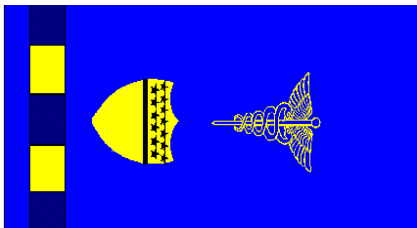


Front

Communications

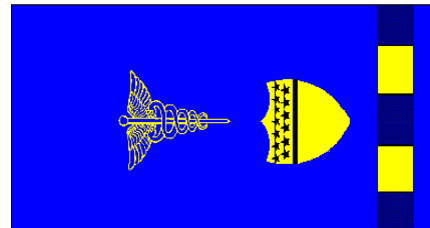
Narrow end of lightning bolts always point towards the front.

Right Shoulder



Back

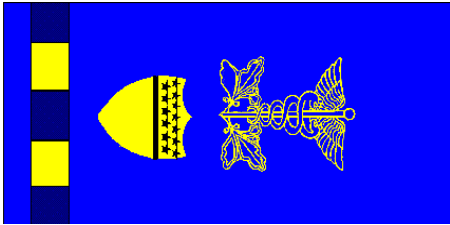
Left Shoulder



Front

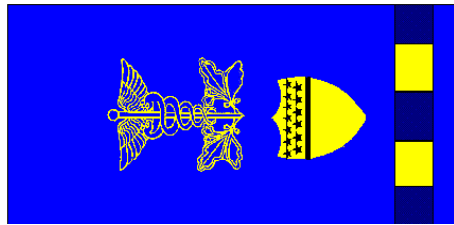
Medical Administration

Right Shoulder



Back

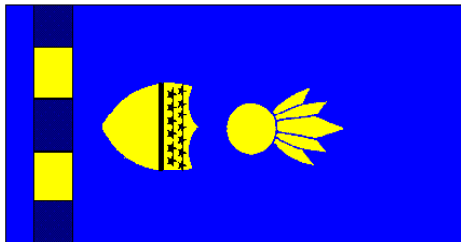
Left Shoulder



Front

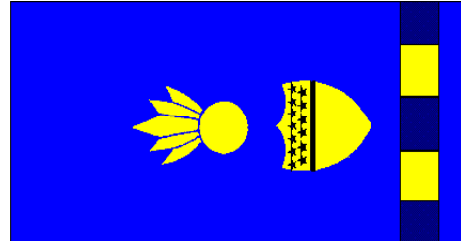
Physician's Assistant

Right Shoulder



Back

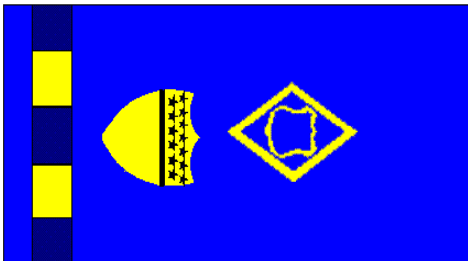
Left Shoulder



Front

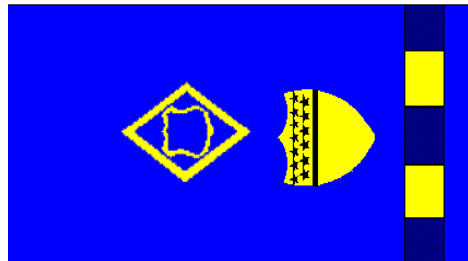
Weapons

Right Shoulder



Back

Left Shoulder



Front

Port Safety & Security

METAL SHOULDER GRADE INSIGNIA

Metal shoulder grade insignia (1 1/8 in.x 3/8 in) is worn on the epaulets of the following:

- Trench coat
- Windbreaker

METAL SHOULDER GRADE INSIGNIA MANNER OF WEAR

The device shall be attached along the centerline with the edge of each device 3/4 inch from the straight side of the epaulet.

The Chief Warrant Officer metal shoulder grade insignia consists of a bar having a dark blue enamel background, with silver or gold markings which denotes the grade. The short side of each bar faces fore and aft.

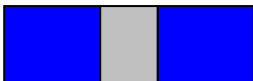
CWO2

Consists of two gold breaks



CWO3

Consists of one silver break.



CWO4

Consists of two silver breaks



COLLAR INSIGNIA

Collar insignia (3/4 in.x 1/4 in) shall be either metal or sewn-on, indicating the wearer's grade and specialty. The insignia is worn on both collar points of uniform shirts.

The right collar insignia of Chief Warrant Officers denotes rank (rank on "right"). The left collar insignia shall consist of your specialty.

- The top and base of the specialty insignia are as previously pictured.

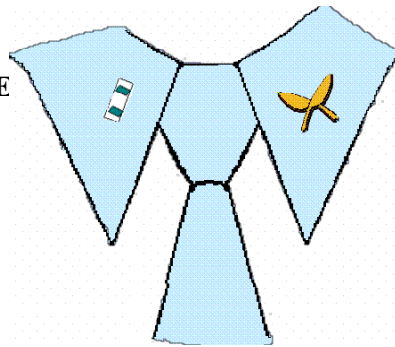
MANNER OF WEAR

Collar insignia shall be worn on the collar points of the following shirts:

- Working blue
- Undress blue
- Winter Dress Blue (CPO) shirt

When wearing the light blue long and short sleeved shirts, and the Winter Dress Blue (CPO) shirt the insignia shall be centered parallel to the inner edge of the collar. Center the device on the collar between the visible top and bottom collar edges with the center of the device 1 inch from the inner edge.

**DEVICE CENTERED
BETWEEN THE VISIBLE
TOP AND BOTTOM
COLLAR EDGES AND
CENTER OF DEVICE IS
1 INCH FROM THE
INNER EDGE**



- For working blue shirts, women's short sleeve light blue shirts without pockets and the old style light blue shirts without the epaulets, the insignia shall be centered on the collar, along an imaginary line bisecting the angle of the collar point.



**CENTERED ON COLLAR, ALONG IMAGINARY
LINE BISECTING COLLAR POINT**

HEADGEAR INSIGNIA

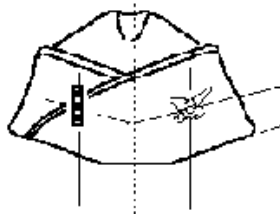
COMBINATION CAP

Combination Cap. The combination cap device shall consist of a gold spread eagle approximately 2 3/4 inches high. The cap device may be embroidered or made of metal with appropriate plating to simulate gold or silver. The device shall be attached to the mount of the combination cap band. NOTE: the combination cap band is different for officers, you cannot use the enlisted cap band.



GARRISON CAP

Garrison Cap. The left device on the garrison cap shall consist of the miniature version of the eagle worn on the combination cap. The right device on the garrison cap shall consist of the same design as the collar rank insignia. The insignia devices are positioned on the left or the right equally.



**THE CENTER OF THE DEVICE
IS PLACED 1 1/2 INCHES FROM
THE BOTTEM EDGE OF THE CAP**

**THE CENTER OF THE DEVICE
IS PLACED 2 INCHES RIGHT OR
LEFT OF THE FRONT CREASE**

WORKING BLUE AND UNIT BALL CAP

Working Blue and Unit Ball Cap. Officers shall wear rank/grade collar insignia on the working blue and unit ball cap which is the same as the garrison cap. All devices shall be centered 1 1/4 inches above the visor, or centered on the front of the cap so as not to interfere with the lettering.



**CENTER OF DEVICE
IS 1 1/4" ABOVE VISOR.**

**CENTERED IN MIDDLE
HAT FRONT.**

SWORD AND SWORD ACCESSORIES

Sword, scabbard, sword belt, and sword knot are required of all officers on active duty for wear with Full Dress uniforms.

The senior officer present may prescribe the wearing of the Full Dress uniform without the sword for certain individuals, or on specific occasions when the wearing of a sword is considered inappropriate or undesirable.

The sword shall have a cut and thrust blade, from 26 to 32 inches long, half-basket hilt, and shall fit in a scabbard of plain black grain leather or synthetic material presenting the same appearance.

The sword belt shall be of plain black grain leather or synthetic material presenting the same appearance as the scabbard. It is 1 3/4 inches wide with 3/4 inch wide sling straps of the same material. The buckle shall be 2 inches in diameter with gold plate mounting.

The sword knot shall consist of a 1/2 inch gold lace loop, 24 inches long with slide and tassel.

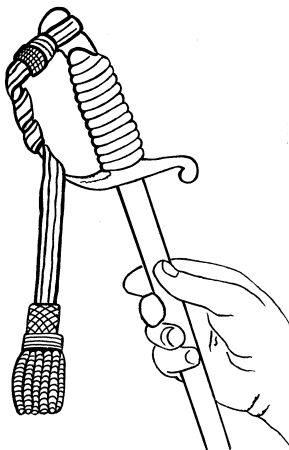
PREPARING THE SWORD KNOT

To prepare the sword knot:



Hold the sword with the blade pointing down and the handle to the left. Pass the end of the lace upward through the slit in the guard of the hilt.

With the knotted end, take one turn (right to left) around the handle outside the guard and pass it through the eye of the bight. Adjust the lace slide as illustrated below.

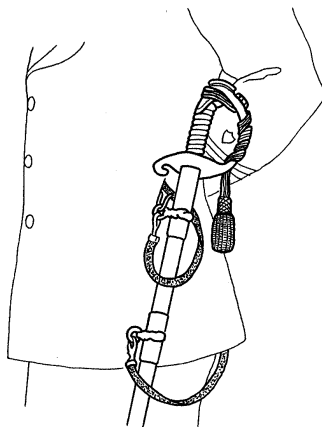


Take two or more additional turns down around the guard and let the knot (tassel) hang free.

MANNER OF WEAR FOR SWORD AND SWORD ACCESSORIES

To attach the sword and scabbard to the belt, hold the sword with the right hand and attach the back swivels to the scabbard rings. The shorter strap is attached to the upper ring and the longer strap to the lower.

Twist the sword one-half turn in a clockwise direction and suspend on the sword hook with the uppermost scabbard ring so that the sword handle faces aft.



The sword belt is worn under the dress coat. The short belt strap and lock swivels are passed through the coat opening on the left side and the longer strap hangs free.

INSIGNIA TRANSITIONING FROM ENLISTED TO OFFICER

You may continue to wear the following Breast Insignias as an officer.

Aircrew

A gold toned metal winged pin with an anchor and the letters "AC" inscribed.



Enlisted members qualified for aircrew duty that subsequently advance to officer status might continue to wear the Aircrew insignia until they qualify for other aviation insignia.

Cutterman

A gold toned (officers) or matte silver toned color (enlisted) metal device with a shield on a five pointed star superimposed on a ship's wheel centered over stylized waves.



Enlisted members eligible to wear the permanent Cutterman Insignia who subsequently advance to officer status may continue to wear the silver insignia until they have completed all necessary PQS for the gold insignia, according to the Cutter Training and Education Manual, COMDTINST M3502.4 (series). The member must complete the applicable PQS before he or she may wear either the temporary or permanent gold insignia. Enlisted members eligible for a temporary Cutterman Insignia are not entitled to wear the silver insignia temporarily when they advance to officer status. See M3502.4 for PQS for more information.

Coxswain

A dull silver pin with curled waves and crossed oars with a compass rose superimposed.



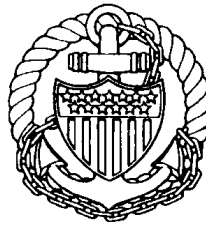
Enlisted personnel qualified to wear the Coxswain Insignia who subsequently advance to officer status may continue to wear the Coxswain Insignia. Officers who later qualify as coxswains are not authorized to wear the Coxswain Insignia.

2.A.4. QUALIFICATION AND DESIGNATION INSIGNIA, COMMAND AND OFFICER IN CHARGE

The Command At Sea and Command Ashore Insignia are considered equivalent. Personnel entitled to wear the Command at Sea/Command Ashore Insignia shall wear this insignia in addition to any other breast insignia authorized. The large size Command at Sea/Command Ashore Insignia shall be worn on full dress uniforms. The miniature insignia, half the size in diameter of the large insignia, shall be worn on all other uniforms. During the incumbency of either insignia, both the incumbent insignia and the previously earned insignia may be worn.

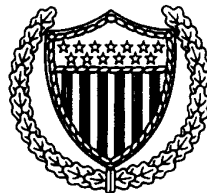
Officer-in-Charge (OINC) Afloat

A dull silver metal pin with a Coast Guard shield and anchor superimposed on a rope grommet.



Officer-in-Charge (OINC) Ashore

A dull silver metal pin with a wreath of oak leaves open at the top with a Coast Guard shield in its center.



Members entitled to wear the OINC Afloat or Ashore Insignia wear it in the same manner as prescribed for the Command at Sea or Command Ashore Insignia.

Enlisted members who have earned the OINC insignia and subsequently advance to officer status may continue to wear their previous insignia until they qualify for the equivalent command insignia, which is then worn.

COMMAND INSIGNIA MANNER OF WEAR

Wear the Command at Sea, Command Ashore, OINC Afloat, and OINC Ashore insignia in this manner.

- Incumbent (present command) insignia:

Wear on the right chest centered ¼-inch above the pocket. If wearing nametags, center ¼-inch above the nametag.

When wearing large medals, center the full-size Command Insignia ¼-inch above the right chest pocket. If wearing ribbons on the right side, position the insignia ¼-inch above the ribbons. On the women's uniform without pockets, position the insignia on the right side equivalent to the position of the medals.

On men's dinner and formal dress jackets, wear the miniature device on the right lapel, centered 3 ½-inches below the notch. Women wear command insignia centered on the right side one-third of the distance between the shoulder seam and coat hem.

- Previous command:

If worn without ribbons or medals, center the miniature insignia ¼-inch above the left pocket.

If worn with ribbons, center the miniature insignia on the left pocket flap above the button. Women wear the insignia ¼-inch above the left pocket flap or equivalent location. When wearing two previously earned miniature insignia, wear them on the left pocket flap, symmetrically centered on either side of the button, with the most recently earned device placed inboard. When wearing ribbons and another breast device on the pocket flap, center the command insignia ¼-inch below the flap's lower edge.

When wearing large medals, wear the full size command insignia on the left chest pocket ¼-inch below the bottom of the medals. If wearing two with large medals, the command insignias may extend below the pocket edges. Women wear the insignia(s) ¼-inch above their medals.

On dinner dress and formal dress blue jackets, men center the insignia on the left lapel approximately 3 ½-inches below the notch. Women center command insignia on the left lapel one-third of the distance between the shoulder seam and coat hem.

Women may adjust the standard spacing if needed to enhance the insignia's appearance on the uniform.

When wearing an identification badge, wear the Command at Sea or Command Ashore Insignia above the badge. When wearing the dinner dress jacket uniform, wear the Command at Sea or Command Ashore Insignia above the miniature medals and the identification badge below them.