



@USNPEOPLE UNIFORM NEWSGRAM

WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2014

Female Uniforms

Fit evaluations this spring on redesigned aspects of the female service dress blue uniform will produce important information on the fit, comfort and function of the new slacks, jumper and a version of the Dixie Cup-style cover with a sweat and makeup band. Female chiefs and officers can expect new combination covers, designed to more closely resemble the male version.



Lightweight Navy Working Uniforms

Also this spring, the Navy Uniform Matters office and the Navy Clothing and Textile Research Facility will begin wear testing a lightweight version of the NWU Type I for Sailors assigned in regions with warm climates. The evaluation will focus on the comfort provided by two prototype uniforms made of different fabrics. If the evaluations are successful, Navy leadership will determine which version to add to the sea bag.

Flame Resistant Coveralls (FRV)

The FRV has started the initial distribution with Fleet units that are preparing for deployment and forward deployed Naval Forces. The initial Fleet outfitting should complete by the end of this year. Three sets of FRV coveralls will be issued to all personnel on surface ships and managed as organizational clothing.

Uniform Boards

The Chief of Naval Personnel is in the process of reviewing our current overall uniform board process to look for ways to better serve the fleet.

ASK THE MASTER CHIEF



My name is Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Rita Carman. I recently reported to the Uniform Matters Office (UMO) from USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66), where I served as CMC. I have 22 years of continuous Navy service that includes nine ships of various platforms.

I look forward to serving the Fleet as the UMO's Command Master Chief. Our Staff is composed of Mr. Robert Carroll (retired Master Chief), Personnel Specialist First Class Andrew Lucio and myself.

We work closely together to respond to the Fleets questions and proposals regarding Uniform matters. I encourage you all to visit the [UMO website](#) for the latest updates on uniform policies, NAVADMINs, uniform illustrations and Frequently Asked Questions just to mention a few. I also invite you to ask us your questions on uniform policies and provide feedback on how we can improve our website via our 'Ask the Master Chief' forum. Just click on the link '[Ask the Master Chief](#)', start typing and hit send.

FAQ'S

Here are a few of our commonly asked questions from '[Ask the Master Chief](#)':

Q – Is the Rigger's Belt authorized for wear in Coveralls?

A – No, the rigger's belt is not listed as one of the authorized uniform component of the Navy coveralls, per [U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations, chapter 3, uniform components](#). The rigger's belt is listed as an optional uniform item, authorized for wear with the Navy Working Uniform Type I in the manner prescribed in the Uniform Regulations.

Q – Is it mandatory to wear the rating badge on the pea coat for E4 to E6 Sailors?

A – Yes, it is required to wear the rating badge, in accordance with [U.S. Navy Uniform regulations, Chapter 4, article 4221.c](#).

Q – What are the appropriate female hair standards when wearing the PTU (Physical Training Uniform)?

A – Hair grooming requirements for female Sailors while conducting command or unit PT is at the discretion of the commanding officer, in accordance with [U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations, Chapter 2, Section 2, article 2201.1B Grooming Standards Exception](#). It states “During group/unit PT, Commanding Officers are authorized to standardize unit policy for the relaxation of female hair grooming standards with regard to having hair secured to head. Hair restraining devices, if worn, will be black or navy blue in color.” When performing individual PT, female Sailors are authorized to wear their hair in their manner of choice.

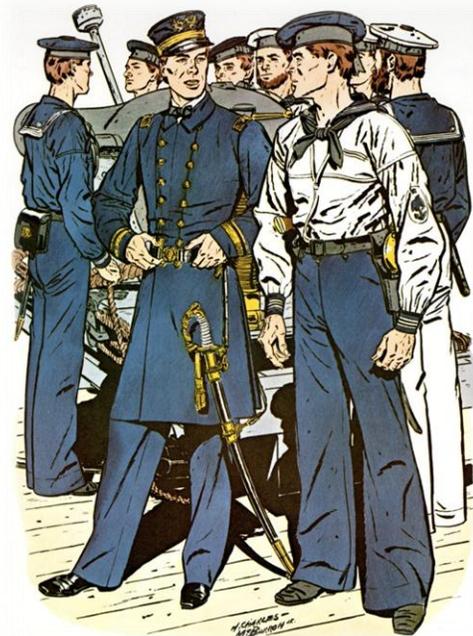
UNIFORM HISTORY: COLLAR PIPING ON ENLISTED JUMPERS

Piping first appeared as a decorative device during the 1840s, which Sailors added to break up drabness of their uniform.

In 1866 the collar flap was extended to nine inches to accommodate a standardized system of white piping to distinguish petty officers (three rows), ordinary seamen (two rows) and landsmen and boys (one row). Corresponding rows were displayed on the cuff.

In 1876 the white tape on the collar was standardized to three rows for all enlisted wearing the jumper, with rank to be determined by the petty officer insignia, and cuff stripes for the seaman ranks.

In 1947, cuff piping was standardized at three rows for all hands since rating badges and added piping (diagonal white, red, green, or blue stripes on the left sleeve) to denote rank was repetitious.



*“Can I wear this command buckle after I PCS?”
“Ask the Master Chief, sir.”*