

THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ENLISTED RANK INSIGNIA



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Service members in pay grades E-1 through E-3 are usually either in some kind of training status or on their initial assignment. The training includes the basic training phase where recruits are immersed in military culture and values and are taught the core skills required by their service component.

Visit [Web Specials](#) on Basic Training: Link: [Army/Marines](#) Link: [AF/Navy](#)

Basic training is followed by a specialized or advanced training phase that provides recruits with a specific area of expertise or concentration. In the Army and Marines, this area is called a military occupational specialty; in the Navy it is known as a rate; and in the Air Force it is simply called an Air Force specialty.






ARMY — * For rank and precedence within the Army, specialist ranks immediately below corporal. Among the services, however, rank and precedence are determined by pay grade.

NAVY/COAST GUARD — *A specialty mark in the center of a rating badge indicates the wearer's particular rating. ** Gold stripes indicate 12 or more years of good conduct. *** 1. Master chief petty officer of the Navy and fleet and force master chief petty officers. 2. Command master chief petty officers wear silver stars. 3. Master chief petty officers wear silver stars and silver specialty rating marks. [TOP](#)

ARMY	NAVY	MARINES	AIR FORCE
	COAST GUARD		

The U.S. Coast Guard is a part of the Department of Transportation in peacetime and the Navy in times of war. Coast Guard rank insignia are the same as the Navy except for color and the seaman recruit rank, which has one stripe.





E1	Private	Seaman Recruit (SR)	Private	Airman Basic TOP
E2	Private E-2 (PV2) 	Seaman Apprentice (SA) 	Private First Class (PFC) 	Airman (Amn) TOP
E3	Private First Class (PFC) 	Seaman (SN) 	Lance Corporal (LCpl) 	Airman First Class (A1C)

E4	Corporal (CPL)	Specialist (SPC)	Petty Officer Third Class (PO3) **	Corporal (Cpl)	Senior Airman (SrA)
					





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Leadership responsibility significantly increases in the mid-level enlisted ranks. This responsibility is given formal recognition by use of the terms noncommissioned officer and petty officer. An Army sergeant, an Air Force staff sergeant, and a Marine corporal are considered NCO ranks. The Navy NCO equivalent, petty officer, is achieved at the rank of petty officer third class. [TOP](#)






ARMY	NAVY	MARINES	AIR FORCE
	COAST GUARD		

E5	Sergeant (SGT)	Petty Officer Second Class (PO2) **	Sergeant (Sgt)	Staff Sergeant (SSgt)
				

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E6	Staff Sergeant (SSG)	Petty Officer First Class (PO1) **	Staff Sergeant (SSgt)	Technical Sergeant (TSgt)
				









[TOP](#)

E7	Sergeant First Class (SFC)	Chief Petty Officer (CPO) **	Gunnery Sergeant (GySgt)	Master Sergeant (MSgt)	First Sergeant
					

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At the E-8 level, the Army, Marines and Air Force have two positions at the same pay grade. Whether one is, for example, a senior master sergeant or a first sergeant in the Air Force depends on the person's job. The same is true for the positions at the E-9 level. Marine Corps master gunnery sergeants and sergeants major receive the same pay but have different responsibilities. All told, E-8s and E-9s have 15 to 30 years on the job, and are commanders' senior advisers for enlisted matters.

A third E-9 element is the senior enlisted person of each service. The sergeant major of the Army, the sergeant major of the Marine Corps, the master chief petty officer of the Navy and the chief master sergeant of the Air Force are the spokespersons of the enlisted force at the highest levels of their services. [TOP](#)

	ARMY		NAVY COAST GUARD		MARINES		AIR FORCE		
E8	Master Sergeant (MSG) 	First Sergeant (1SG) 	Senior Chief Petty Officer (SCPO) ** 		Master Sergeant (MSgt) 	First Sergeant 	Senior Master Sergeant (SMSgt) 	First Sergeant  TOP	
E9	Sergeant Major (SGM) 	Command Sergeant Major (CSM) 	Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPO) ** *** 	Fleet/Command Master Chief Petty Officer ** *** 	Sergeant Major (SgtMaj) 	Master Gunnery Sergeant (MGySgt) 	Chief Master Sergeant (CMSgt) 	First Sergeant 	Command Chief Master Sergeant (CCM)  TOP
E9	Sergeant Major of the Army (SMA) 	Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) and Coast Guard (MCPOCG)  ** ***		Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps (SgtMajMC) 		Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force (CMSAF)  TOP			
 OFFICER INSIGNIA LINK					 MAIN				

