

YOUNG MARINES UNIFORM REGULATIONS

1. Young Marine Uniform. The official uniform for youth in the Young Marines Program is the woodland pattern camouflage blouse, trousers, khaki web belt, boots, cover and white T-shirt. This uniform is required for all Young Marine events above the Unit level. The uniform will be worn as follows:
 - a. Camouflage Blouse. Worn with Young Marine breast pocket patch worn centered above the left breast pocket, 1/8-inch above the pocket, (see figure 1). The Young Marine shoulder patch is worn on the wearer's left sleeve with the Unit designation arc centered above the patch, on the shoulder seam, (see figure 2).



(Figure 1)



(Figure 2)

- b. Camouflage Trousers. Worn with straight or pouch pockets. Nametapes will be sewn over the right rear pocket of the trousers, centered and flush over the top seam.
- c. Khaki Web Belt. Worn with brass buckle. Either Marine Corps style buckle or anodized buckles are authorized. Green or black cargo type belts are also authorized except during formal inspections.
- d. Boots. The standard black leather or black hot weather tropical (jungle) combat boots for wear with the utility uniform will be worn. Old-style black combat boots (with eyelet lacing) or green hot weather tropical (jungle) boots may also be worn. All Young Marines within the Unit should wear the same color boot. Whenever possible, boots should be kept polished with a high shine on the toes and heels. Black or green socks will be worn with the boots.
- e. Covers. The woodland-style authorized camouflage utility cap may be worn with any authorized style camouflage uniform. The cap will be machine or hand laundered in warm water. It may be starched or sized but may not be bleached.
- f. White T-shirts. Will be worn with the camouflage uniform. Unit Commanders should pay particular attention to times when the camouflage blouse is removed to expose the white t-shirt. In order to protect the dignity of our female members, the camouflage blouse should never be removed if participating in events where water is involved i.e., water tag, working parties, inclement weather, etc. During these type events, the white t-shirt can become transparent, potentially leading to unnecessary embarrassment or harassment.
- g. Ribbons. Ribbons are worn so that the lowest row of ribbons is 1/8-inch above the left breast pocket patch and centered. Ribbons are worn in the order of precedence as established in the Young Marine Awards Manual. They are preferably worn in rows of three, (see figure 3). However, they may also be worn in rows of four. Ribbons that become soiled or faded should be replaced.



(Figure 3)

- h. Nametape. An olive drab nametape is worn centered over the right pocket, flush to the pocket seam and flush to the edges of the pocket.
- i. Chevrons. Rank insignias are worn on both collars of the camouflage blouse, khaki shirt or field jacket. They are placed vertically with the single point up and center of the insignia on a line bisecting the angle of the point of the collar. The lower outside edges of the chevron are placed 1/2 inch from the edge of the collar. During events above the Unit level, Young Marines should wear chevrons on their camouflage cover. The chevron will be centered top to bottom, left to right on the front of the cover.
- j. Each Unit should have a Unit T-shirt with the Unit name and the Young Marine designation imprinted on the shirt. Colors may vary. These T-shirts should be part of each Young Marines PT uniform. They may also be worn for activities and functions where the camouflage uniform is inappropriate, for example, car washes, certain community service projects, etc. It is a Young Marine's responsibility to keep his uniform clean and neatly pressed at all times. All Young Marines are expected to keep themselves clean and well groomed whether in uniform or not.
2. Adult Members. The official Young Marines Uniform for adult members is the Camouflage Utility Uniform. All adult members are authorized to wear the uniform, however, the Commanding Officer may request that an adult member not wear the uniform if it is deemed inappropriate.
- a. Military Members. Active duty military personnel are authorized to wear Service or Dress Uniforms to Young Marine functions as authorized by their respective Service.
- i. Camouflage Utilities/Battle Dress Uniforms are authorized as dictated by local service command regulations. When in any of the uniforms listed above, personnel will wear their active duty rank insignia.
 - ii. Active duty personnel shall not mix Young Marine uniform items such as Young Marine patches and collar devices with any armed forces uniforms patches or devices. This rule also applies to military members serving on active-duty, in the reserves forces, or National Guard, and retirees.
- b. Former Marines and Non-Military Members. Non-Military members who work directly with Young Marines, as Instructors, Platoon Commander/Advisor, Drill Instructor, etc. are highly encouraged to wear the camouflage uniform for the benefit of their charges.
- i. Marines, and former and retired Marines are authorized to wear the anodized brass-collar emblem with the Silver Eagle, Globe and Anchor attached. They are also authorized to wear the "U.S. Marines" nametape en lieu of the "Young Marines" nametape over the left breast pocket, (see figure 4). Those Marines who are members of the Marine Corps League may wear the MCL Sunburst collar device en lieu of the brass and silver Young Marine Collar Device (see figure 5).



(Figure 4)



(Figure 5)

- ii. Adult members who are not Marines are authorized to wear the Young Marines Disc Insignia, a solid gold colored anodized brass emblem depicting the Young Marine logo, (see Figure 6). When wearing the camouflage uniform, the blouse will have an olive drab nametape over the right pocket, centered and flush with the pocket seam and the edges of the pocket.



(Figure 6)

- iii. A matching olive drab tape labeled YOUNG MARINES will be worn over the left breast pocket. The Unit designation arc is sewn on the left sleeve against the shoulder seam with the Young Marine patch underneath, flush against the Unit designation arc. Adult members will not wear the Young Marine breast patch.
 - iv. The Commanding Officer will have an additional arc on his shoulder. It will be sewn on directly underneath the Young Marine patch and will be labeled COMMANDING OFFICER.
 - v. The Commanding Officer shall designate appropriate Young Marine attire to Adult members with the unit who do not wear the camouflage utility uniform. Appropriate Young Marine attire is any attire that presents a neat and professional appearance. All adult personnel will be in one of the uniforms mentioned above during unit meeting or activity.
 - vi. The wearing of rank insignia of any kind by adult members on Young Marine Uniforms is strictly prohibited.
- c. Marine Corps Emblem. The only personnel authorized to wear the Marine Corps emblem are Active Duty, Reserves, or former Marines. This also applies to retirees, medical discharge, and all other discharges under honorable conditions. At no time are adult members who were not in the Marine Corps, allowed to wear the Marine Corps emblem. Young Marines are not authorized to wear the Marine Corps emblem.
- d. Awards/Ribbons. Adult members are not authorized to wear Young Marine awards. Ribbons for Adult members have been discontinued and are no longer authorized for wear on the Young Marine Uniform.
- e. Campaign Cover. The wearing of the Campaign Cover or "Smoky" is strictly prohibited for all Young Marines and Adult members. This prohibition applies to current Drill/Basic Military Training (BMT) Instructors of all Services acting in their capacity as a Young Marine instructors or staff member and former Drill/ BMT Instructors.
3. Grooming and Personal Appearance Standards. All members of the Young Marines Program shall adhere to the following standards:
- a. Adult Members.
 - i. Adult members shall maintain neat and well-groomed appearance. Adult members may not wear beards in uniform. Commanding Officers must take this into consideration prior to assigning them to positions requiring the wearing of the Young Marine Uniform or direct involvement with Young Marines.
 - ii. Earrings are not allowed for male adult members at any time. The only jewelry permitted, when in uniform, is watches, wedding bands, medical bracelets, or medical and religious medallions. Female adult members may not wear earrings in the camouflage uniform.
 - b. Male Young Marines.
 - i. Hair will be neat and closely trimmed. Hair will be short enough so that it does not touch the ears or hang on the nape of the neck. The hair may be clipped at the edges of the side and back and will not be over 3 inches in length fully extended on the upper portion of the head. Head hair will be styled so as not to interfere with the proper wear of uniform headgear. Hair, which protrudes from beneath properly worn headgear in an unsightly manner, is considered excessive, regardless of length. Male Young Marines are not authorized to wear braids nor to have eccentric designs cut in their hair.
 - ii. Beards are unauthorized. However, mustaches and sideburns may be worn, as long as they conform to current

Marine Corps grooming standards. When worn, the mustache will be neatly trimmed and must not extend beyond the length of the upper lip. The individual length of a mustache hair fully extended must not exceed 1/2 inch. Except for a mustache, sideburns, eyebrows, and eyelashes; hair may be grown on the face only when a medical officer has determined that shaving is temporarily harmful to the individual Young Marine's health. Sideburns will not extend below the top of the orifice of the ear. Sideburns will not be styled to taper or flare. The length of an individual hair of the sideburn will not exceed 1/8 inch when fully extended.

iii. The only jewelry permitted is watches, medical items, and religious medallions.

c. Female Young Marines.

i. Grooming. Hair may touch the collar, but will not fall below the collar's lower edge. Hair that would fall naturally below the collar's lower edge will be neatly and inconspicuously fastened or pinned. During physical training periods in which physical training clothing is worn, hair will be allowed to fall naturally, without being fastened or pinned. This does not apply when conducting physical training in the utility uniform.

ii. Hair will be styled so as not to interfere with the proper wear of the uniform headgear. All headgear will fit snugly and comfortably around the largest part of the head without distortion or excessive gaps. Hairstyles, which do not allow the headgear to be worn in this manner, are prohibited.

1. Faddish and exaggerated styles to include shaved portions of the scalp other than the neckline, designs in the hair, unsecured ponytails and styles that are distinctly unbalanced or lopsided are prohibited. Multiple braiding and buns are authorized. If hair extensions are used in the braiding of the hair, the extensions must have the same general appearance as the individual's natural hair. Braided hairstyles will be conservative, and conform to other guidelines listed herein.

2. Barrettes, combs, rubber bands, etc. are authorized, if concealed by the hair. Inconspicuous hairpins and bobby pins, if required, are authorized. Hairnets will not be worn unless authorized for a specific type of duty.

iii. Cosmetics. Cosmetics are authorized for wear in uniform if permitted by the parent or legal guardian. It shall be applied conservatively and must complement the individual's complexion and skin tone. Exaggerated or faddish cosmetic styles are considered inappropriate and shall not be tolerated. Non-eccentric lipstick and nail polish colors, to include colorless nail polish are authorized for wear with the uniform. Fingernails with multiple colors and decorative ornamentation are considered eccentric and shall not be worn. Nail length will be no longer than 1/4 inch from the tip of the finger.

iv. Jewelry. The only jewelry permitted while in uniform is watches, religious and medical medallions, and medical bracelets. Small, polished, yellow gold color, ball, or round stud earrings, (post, screw-on, or clip), not to exceed six millimeters (about 1/4 inch) in diameter, may be worn with the Service uniform. When worn, earrings will fit tightly against, and will not extend below, the earlobe. Only one earring will be worn on or in each earlobe. Earrings will not be worn with the utility uniform, nor will they be worn in formation, or while participating in a parade, ceremony, or other similar military functions.

4. Young Marines Service Uniforms. All Young Marines Service Uniforms are optional and not required for Young Marines and Adult members. Young Marines and Adult members are authorized to wear Young Marine modified equivalent uniforms of U. S. Marine Corps Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie uniforms as described below. There is no Young Marines version of the U.S. Marine Corps Dress Blues Uniform or its variants. The Dress Blue Uniform or any variation of this uniform is not authorized for wear by Young Marines or Adult Members. However, Marines and former Marines may wear this uniform as authorized by the Marine Corps Uniform regulations and the Department of the Navy regulations.

a. Service "A". This uniform is appropriate for formal and semi-formal occasions.

i. Service Cover with the Young Marines Disc Insignia, a solid gold colored anodized brass emblem depicting the Young Marine logo, placed over the insignia slot located on the left side of the cover. Adult members who are former Marines are authorized to replace the Young Marines disc insignia with the brass-cover emblem with the Silver Eagle, Globe and Anchor attached.

ii. Service Coat with the Young Marine shoulder patch worn on the left sleeve with the unit designation arc centered above the patch on the shoulder seam. Young Marines shall wear the Disc Insignia, a solid gold colored anodized brass emblem depicting the Young Marines logo on the collars over each insignia slot. Adult members who are

former Marines are authorized to replace the Young Marines disc insignia with the brass-collar emblems with the Silver Eagle, Globe and Anchor attached.

- iii. Khaki long sleeve shirt with rank insignia on each collar. Females may wear either the long or short sleeve khaki shirt and green neck tab with this uniform. Adult members replace the rank insignia with the appropriate Young Marines disc insignia.
- iv. Khaki Tie and gold-plated or anodized Tie Clasp. The Tie Clasp may not exceed ¼-inch in length. Young Marines and Adult member are authorized to wear the USMC Officer, Staff Noncommissioned Officer or Enlisted Tie Clasps as part of the Young Marine Service uniform.
- v. Black socks of synthetic or natural materials or a composite both.
- vi. Black dress shoes must be approved for wear by the Commanding Officer prior to purchase. The shoes shall be of commercial black leather or synthetic semi-gloss or high gloss (patent) finish. Shoes consisting of double/platform soles or heels or metal heel or toe plates are prohibited.

- b. Service "B". This uniform is prescribed for formations, parades or ceremonies in temperate climates from November through March. This uniform should not be worn for formal or semi-formal social events. It is the same as the Alpha uniform except that the Service coat is not worn and the long sleeve khaki shirt must have the Young Marine shoulder patch worn on the left sleeve with the unit designation arc centered above the patch on the shoulder seam. Adult members replace the rank insignia with the appropriate Young Marines brass-collar insignia.
- c. Service "C". This uniform is prescribed for formations, parades or ceremonies in temperate climates from April through October. This uniform is authorized year-round in consistently warm climates and the tropics. It is the same as the Service "B" except that the long sleeve khaki shirt and tie or green neck tab are replaced by the short sleeve khaki shirt. The short sleeve khaki shirt must have the Young Marine shoulder patch worn on the left sleeve with the unit designation arc centered above the patch on the shoulder seam. Adult members replace the rank insignia with the appropriate Young Marines brass-collar insignia.

5. Other Optional Uniform Items.

- a. Service Sweater. May be worn at the individual's option as a component of the Service Bravo or Charlie uniforms. May also be worn under the camouflage uniform.
- b. Tanker Jacket. May be worn at the individual's option as a component of the Service Bravo or Charlie uniforms. When worn the jacket will be zipped at least to the top (i.e., the highest point) of the external slash pockets. When worn with the sweater, the sleeves and the waistband of the sweater will be rolled up or under to ensure they do not extend below the jacket's sleeves/waistband. The tanker jacket will not be worn with nametapes. However, the Young Marine shoulder patch and Unit arc should be worn below the wearer's left shoulder seam. Plastic or metal chevrons are to be worn on the shoulder straps. The single point will be inboard and placed so that it is an equal distance from the front and rear edges of the shoulder straps with the lowest point of the insignia's outer edge 3/4 inch from the armhole seam.
- c. Field Jacket. Is intended for wear with the utility uniform. When issued, it should be the principal outer garment worn with utilities. The wearing of nametapes on the field jacket will be at the discretion of the Unit Commander. However, the Young Marine shoulder patch and Unit arc should be worn below the left shoulder seam. The camouflage Gortex field jacket is also authorized for wear. When wearing the Gortex field jacket the Young Marine shoulder patch and Unit arc should be worn below the left shoulder seam.
- d. All Weather Coat (AWC). The AWC may be worn with the Service or Camouflage uniforms. It may be worn with or without the liner at the individual's option. Plastic or metal chevrons are to be worn vertically, on each side of the collar with the single point up and the center of the insignia on a line bisecting the angle of the point of the collar. The lower outside edge of the insignia will be equally spaced 1/2 inch from both sides of the collar. The AWC will not be worn with nametapes. However, the Young Marine shoulder patch and Unit arc should be worn below the left shoulder seam.
- e. Scarf. Young Marines may wear the green wool scarf when the AWC, Tanker Jacket or Field Jacket is worn with the Service or Utility uniform. When worn, the scarf will overlap to form a "V" at the base of the throat, hiding the garment beneath.
- f. Gloves. Young Marines may wear or carry black leather, vinyl, cloth or knit gloves with the Service or Camouflage Utility uniform.

6. Uniform Marking.

- a. Web Belt. On one side only, near the buckle end.
- b. Cover. Inside on the sweatband.
- c. Blouse. Inside on the neckband.
- d. Drawers. Outside below the waistband, near the front.
- e. Gloves. Inside at the wrist.
- f. Necktie. On the inside of the neck loop.
- g. Dress Shirts and Undershirts. Inside back, on neckband.
- h. Shoes/Boots. Inside near the top.
- i. Socks. Outside on top of the foot.
- j. Sweater. Stamped on manufacturing label or use marking tape/label sewed on inside the back of sweater, below the neckband, with thread to match the sweater.
- k. Trousers; Skirts; Slacks. Inside near the top.
- l. PT Shorts. Inside immediately below the waistband.
- m. Bag, Duffel. On the outside of the bottom of the bag.

7. Initial Issue from National Headquarters. All new Young Marine Recruits and new Registered Adults receive at no charge the following from items:

- 1-Red National Young Marines T-Shirt
- 1-Camouflage Cover
- 1-Belt Set (Web belt, brass buckle, and a pair of boot bands)
- 1-Young Marines Breast Patch (Young Marines only)
- 1-Young Marines Shoulder Patch
- 1-Unit Arch
- 1-Commanding Officer Arch (Commanding Officer only)
- 1-Young Marines Guide (Young Marines only)
- 2- Plastic flashcards

8. All other uniform items used in the Young Marines program must be purchased from the National Headquarters or other designated source approved by the Commanding Officer.