



Defence Council Instructions

Royal Navy

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
6 February 1998

**DCIs are automatically
cancelled after one year**

1A Dress - Full Dress - 'Blues'**Occasions for wear**

When receiving HM The Queen, other crowned heads or heads of state.

When receiving Royalty unless ordered to the contrary by the relevant C-in-C.

Full ceremonial state events as ordered.

Inspections by Flag Officers.

Funerals, parades and other appropriate ceremonial events.

Descriptions of Dress

General Officers	Officers/WOs/SNCOs	CPLs/MNEs
Cap	Cap/WP helmet ³	Cap/WP helmet ³
Blue Tunic ¹	Blue Tunic	Blue Tunic
Overalls	Blue Trousers/overalls ⁴	Blue Trousers
White long sleeved shirt	White long sleeved shirt ⁵	Black socks ⁹
Black socks ⁹	Black tie ⁵	AP boots
Wellington boots	OP Lanyard ⁵	White belt
Spurs	Black socks ⁹	Frog and Bayonet
Ceremonial sword	AP/OP/Wellington boots ⁴	Rifle
Crimson and gold sash	Sam Browne/White Belt/Sash ⁶	Greatcoat ³
Gold shoulder cords	Frog and Bayonet	White gloves
White gloves	Sword/Rifle ⁷	Braces ⁹
Greatcoat ²	Greatcoat ³	
Braces ⁹	Gloves ⁸	
	Braces ⁹	

Decorations/Medals

Collar and/or broad riband. Up to four stars of orders. Up to three neck decorations.

Medals.

Notes:

1. Army pattern (with high neck) or Corps pattern as appropriate.
2. Atholl Grey Army pattern or blue Corps pattern as required.
3. Helmets and greatcoats to be worn when ordered.
4. W02s and below wear AP boots. Overalls, wellington boots and spurs to be worn by Majors and above, Adjts, Equerries, MAs, ADCs and Flag Lts.
5. Offrs only (WO1s wear OP lanyard).
6. SNCOs wear white belt and scarlet sash; W02s wear a sword belt and scarlet sash. Sam Browne always worn with frog, whether carrying sword or not.
7. Swords/Rifles are carried on parade or when ordered.
8. W02s, Drum and Bugle Majors on appointment and above wear brown cape gloves; the remainder wear white gloves.
9. Not provided at public expense. The alternative sock is Combat Sock GS.
10. For distinctions in RM Band Officers' Full Dress Uniform, see Chapter 4, Sect 2, para 4.

1B Dress - Formal Dress - 'Parade Lovats'

Occasions for wear

Inspections by Flag Officers.

Minor ceremonial occasions as an alternative to 1A Dress.

Courts Martial as appropriate.

Other occasions as ordered.

Descriptions of Dress

General Officers	Officers/WOs/SNCOs	CPLs/MNEs
Beret ¹	Beret ¹	Beret ¹
Lovat suit	Lovat suit	Lovat suit
Unit lanyards ²	Unit lanyard	Unit lanyard
Stone long sleeved shirt	Stone long sleeved shirt	Stone long sleeved shirt
Light khaki braided tie	Khaki drab tie ⁸	Khaki drab tie ⁸
Lovat/green socks ⁷	Socks Combat GS	Socks Combat GS
Sam Browne ³	Sam Browne/Belt/Sash ³	White Belt
Sword ⁴	Frog and Bayonet	Frog and Bayonet
OP Boots	Sword/Rifle ⁴	Rifle
Brown cape gloves	AP/OP Boots	AP Boots
	Gloves ⁶	White gloves

Decorations/Medals

Up to two stars of orders. One neck decoration. Medals.

Notes:

1. Beret with anodised badge. The King's Squad wear caps with chin stay down.
2. Blue OP lanyard on left shoulder plus appropriate unit lanyard on right shoulder.
3. SNCOs wear white belt and scarlet sash; WO2s wear a sword belt and scarlet sash. Sam Browne always worn with frog, whether carrying sword or not.
4. Swords/Rifles are carried on parade or when ordered.
5. WO2s and below wear AP boots.
6. WO2s, Drum and Bugle Majors on appointment and above wear brown cape gloves; the remainder wear white gloves.
7. Lovat coloured socks may be purchased, or Socks Combat GS worn.
8. WO1s wear light khaki braided tie.

1C Dress - Semi Formal Dress - 'Lovats'

Occasions for wear

Occasions of duty or minor ceremonial

Descriptions of Dress

General Officers	Officers/WOs/SNCOs	CPLs/MNEs
Beret/Cap ¹	Beret/Cap ¹	Beret/Cap ¹
Lovat suit	Lovat suit	Lovat suit
Unit Lanyards ²	Unit lanyard	Unit Lanyard
Stone long sleeved shirt	Stone long sleeved shirt	Stone long sleeved shirt
Light khaki braided tie	Khaki drab tie ⁴	Khaki drab tie
Lovat/green socks ³	Socks Combat GS	Socks Combat GS
Cloth Belt	Cloth Belt	Cloth Belt
OP Boots	Sash ⁵	Black Shoes
	Black Shoes ⁷	

Decorations/Medals

Medal Ribbons.

Notes:

1. Beret with anodised badge. Band personnel wear caps. The King's Squad wear caps with chin stay down.
2. Blue OP lanyard on left shoulder plus appropriate unit lanyard on right shoulder
3. Lovat coloured socks should be purchased, or Socks Combat GS worn.
4. WO1s wear light khaki braided tie
5. As ordered/appropriate.
6. Raincoats may be worn as ordered /required
7. WO1s wear OP shoes.

2A Dress - Formal Evening Dress - 'Mess Dress'

Occasions for wear

Official or public balls, dinners and evening receptions of a formal nature.
Full ceremonial evening events.

Descriptions of Dress

Majors & above	Other Officers/WOs/SNCOs	CPLs/MNEs
Cap/side hat ¹	Cap/side hat ¹	Cap
Scarlet mess jacket	Scarlet mess jacket	Blue tunic
Blue mess waistcoat	Blue mess waistcoat	Blue trousers
Stiff fronted shirt	White marcella shirt	Cloth Belt
Wing collar	Blue mess trousers ²	Black Shoes
Black bow tie	Black bow tie	Medals
Overalls	Black socks	
Black socks	Wellington boots/Black shoes	
Wellington boots		
Spurs	(WOs/SNCOs should wear Blues with cloth belt and medals or, optionally Mess Dress)	(JNCOs may wear white shirt blue trousers, red cumerbund and black bow tie for Mess dinners etc)

Decorations/Medals

Broad riband. Up to four stars of orders. One neck decoration. Miniature medals.

Notes:

1. Side hat is optional for officers.
2. Adjts, Equerries, MAs, ADCs and Flag Lts wear overalls, wellington boots and spurs.
3. Civilian equivalent is evening dress with medals and decorations as above.
4. Stiff fronted shirt and wing collar is obligatory for royal equerries/ADCs, principal staff offrs/ADCs to senior offrs, service attaches and advisors.

2B Dress - Formal Evening Dress - 'Mess Undress'

Occasions for wear

Dinner when 2A is not appropriate. Evening dances and entertainments.

Descriptions of Dress

Officers

WOs/SNCOs/CPLs/MNEs

As for 2A Dress for Other Officers

As for 2A Dress

Decorations/Medals

Up to two stars of orders. One neck decoration. Miniature medals.

Notes:

1. Civilian equivalent is black tie with medals and decorations as for 2A Dress.

2C Dress - Informal Evening Dress - 'Red Sea Rig'

Occasions for wear

Informal evening uniform in ships and establishments

Descriptions of Dress

Officers

WOs/SNCOs/CPLs/MNEs

Cap

As for 3A Dress

Shoulder rank boards ¹

White short sleeved shirt

Red cummerbund

Blue trousers ²

Black socks

Black shoes

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. Optional, but anodised rank badges should be worn on a white slide.
2. Not mess trousers.

3A Dress - General Duty Dress - 'Half Lovats'

Occasions for wear

Semi formal rig worn in camp and for day to day duties.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

Beret/Cap ¹

Stone short sleeved shirt ²

Lanyards

Lovat trousers ³

Corps pattern belt

Bronze RMs ⁴

Lovat/Combat Socks GS

Black shoes ⁵

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. Cap for Band personnel.
2. Collar worn open.
3. Barrack Dress trousers, not from Lovat suit.
4. Worn in shoulder strap. Officers also wear bronze rank insignia in strap or on slides.
5. OP/AP boots: white belts and WOs/SNCOs scarlet sashes may be ordered when appropriate. WO1s wear OP shoes.

3B Dress - General Duty Dress - 'Training Rig'

Occasions for wear

Informal day rig worn in camp and for day to day duties.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

Beret/Cap ¹

GS shirt ²

Rank slides ³

Trousers mens lightweight ⁴

Combat Socks Boots ⁵

Belt ⁶

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. With bronze badge
2. Worn with sleeves rolled up.
3. Black on green slides for officers only.
4. Worn with elastics (not supplied) around top of boot.
5. Appropriate to the environment.
6. Green plastic belt, though CPB may be ordered.
7. Combat Jacket/Waterproofs may be worn as ordered/required.

3C Dress - General Duty Dress - 'Half Lovats'

Occasions for wear

Semi formal day rig worn in camp and for day to day duties.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

Beret/Cap ¹
Long sleeved stone shirt
Lovat trousers
Corps Pattern Belt
Lovat/Combat Socks
Jersey Wool Heavy
Black shoes

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. Band personnel wear caps.
2. OP/AP boots, white belts and WOs/SNCOs scarlet sashes may be ordered when appropriate.
3. Raincoats may be worn as ordered/required.
4. WO1s wear OP shoes.

3D Dress - General Duty Dress - 'Training Rig'

Occasions for wear

Informal day rig worn in camp and for day to day duties.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

Beret ¹

GS shirt

Rank slides ²

Trousers Mens Lightweight ³

Jersey Wool Heavy

Combat socks

Boots ⁴

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. With bronze badge.
2. Black on green slides for officers only.
3. Worn with elastics (not supplied) around top of boot.
4. Appropriate to environment.
5. Combat Jacket/Waterproofs may be worn as ordered/required

4/4C/4D/4T Dress - Combat Dress - 'Combats'

Occasions for wear

General in theatre wear when deployed.
Operations, exercises and field training.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks
4

4C

4D

4T

Helmet/Beret ¹

Helmet/Cap ¹

Helmet/Desert hat ¹

Jungle hat

T shirt ¹

ECW underwear ¹

DPM shirt (Desert)

DPM Shirt ³

DPM Shirt ^{1,3}

Norwegian shirt

DPM trousers (Desert)

DPM trousers ³

Fleece ^{1,2,3}

Fleece ^{1,2,3}

Desert boots

Jungle boots

DPM Trousers ³

Windproof smock

DPM Field Jacket ³

Windproof trousers

Combat boots ²

Ski march boots

Gaiters ³

Cam whites ¹

Gloves ³

ECW Gaiters

Gloves

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. As required/ordered.
2. Appropriate to environment.
3. CS95.
4. Waterproofs may be worn as ordered/required.

5 Dress - Working Rig

Occasions for wear

Job specific working rigs worn at sea and ashore.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

Occupational working rigs worn at sea and ashore for specific tasks
(e.g. chefs, divers, aircrew etc)

Decorations/Medals

None

1AW Dress - Full Dress White - 'Parade Stones'

Occasions for wear

When receiving HM The Queen, other crowned heads or heads of state.

When receiving Royalty unless ordered to the contrary by the relevant C-in-C.

Full ceremonial state events as ordered.

Inspections by Flag Officers.

Funerals, Courts Martial, parades and other appropriate ceremonial events.

Descriptions of Dress

Band and General Officers ¹	Other Officers ⁷ /WOs/NCOs/MNEs	RM Band
Cap	WP helmet/Cap/Beret ⁴	WP helmet
White Tunic	Stone jacket	White Tunic
Overalls	Stone trousers	Blue Trousers
Black socks	OP/AP boots	Black socks
Wellington boots	Anodised rank badges/RMs	Boots RM Band
Spurs	Stone socks	
Crimson sash ²	Gloves ⁵	
Sword ³	Lanyards ⁶	
	Sam Browne/White Belt/Sash	
	Frog and Bayonet	
	Sword/Rifle	

Decorations/Medals

Collar and/or broad riband. Up to four stars of orders Up to three neck decorations.
Medals.

Notes:

1. Certain overseas Def Attaches, Band Offrs and Gen Offrs with their MAs/ADCs as required in exceptional circumstances.
2. Sam Brownes as an alternative.
3. As required.
4. Helmet if ordered. Beret with anodised badge.
5. White, or brown cape for offrs (only when armed).
6. Blue OP for offrs, plus unit lanyard.
7. Entitled offrs should wear IBW Dress if appropriate.

1BW Dress - Formal Dress White - 'Parade Stones'

Occasions for wear

Inspections by Flag Officers.

Exchanging visits of ceremony as an alternative to 1A Dress.

Funerals .

Other occasions as ordered.

Descriptions of Dress

Officers

WOs/SNCOs/CPLs/MNEs

Cap/WP helmet 1

Prestige suit or 1AW Dress

Long sleeved stone shirt 2

Light khaki braided tie 2

Anodised rank/RMs

Lanyards

Sam Browne

OP boots

Sword and gloves 3

As for 1AW Dress

Decorations/Medals

Up to two stars of orders. One neck decoration. Medals.

Notes:

1. As ordered/appropriate.

2. Worn only with Prestige suit (issued to certain offrs in overseas appts).

1BW Dress - Formal Dress White - 'Stones'

Occasions for wear

Memorial Services unless ordered to the contrary by the convening authority.
Occasions of duty or minor ceremonial.

Descriptions of Dress

Officers/WO1s	WO2s/SNCOs/MNEs
Beret/Cap ¹	Beret/Cap ¹
Stone Jacket	Stone Jacket
Stone Trousers	Stone Trousers
Stone Socks	Stone Socks
Anodised rank/RMs	Anodised RMs
Lanyards	Lanyards
Stone Belt	Stone Belt
OP Shoes	Black Shoes

Decorations/Medals

Medal ribbons.

Notes:

1. Beret with anodised badge. Band personnel wear caps.

2AW Dress - Formal Evening Dress White - 'Tropical Mess Dress'

Occasions for wear

Official or public balls, dinners and evening receptions of a formal nature.
Full ceremonial evening events¹.

Descriptions of Dress

Majors & Above	Other Officers	WOs/NCOs/MNEs
Cap/Side hat ²	Cap/Side hat ²	(WOs/SNCOs may wear Tropical Mess Dress optionally)
White mess jacket	White mess jacket	
White mess waistcoat	White mess waistcoat	
Stiff fronted shirt	White marcella shirt	
Wing collar ³	Blue mess trousers ⁴	
Black bow tie	Black bow tie	
Overalls	Black socks	
Black socks	Wellington/OP boots/ Black shoes	
Wellington boots		
Spurs		

Decorations/Medals

Broad riband. Up to four stars of orders One neck decoration. Miniature medals.

Notes:

1. The civilian equivalent is Evening Dress with medals and decorations as above.
2. Side hat is optional for officers.
3. Stiff fronted shirt and wing collar is obligatory for Royal Equerries/ADC's, principal staff offrs/ADCs to senior offrs, service attaches and advisors .
4. Adjts, Equerries, MAs, ADC and Flag Lts wear overalls, wellington boots and spurs.

2BW Dress - Formal Evening Undress White - 'Tropical Mess Undress'

Occasions for wear

Dinner when 2A Dress is not appropriate.
Evening dances and entertainments.
Evening duties.

Descriptions of Dress

Officers	WOs/SNCOs	CPLs/MNEs
As for 2AW Dress for other officers but with red cummerbund instead of white waistcoat	As for 2AW	As for 3AW

Decorations/Medals

Up to two stars of orders. One neck decoration. Miniature medals

Notes:

1. The civilian equivalent is black tie with medals and decorations as above.

2CW Dress - Informal Evening Dress White - 'Red Sea Rig'

Occasions for wear

Informal evening uniform in ships and establishments.

Descriptions of Dress

Officers	WOs/NCOs/MNEs
As for 2C	As for 3AW

Decorations/Medals

None

3AW Dress - General Duty Dress White - 'Half Stones'

Occasions for wear

Semi formal rig worn ashore and afloat.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

Beret/Cap ¹

Stone short sleeved shirt

Stone trousers

Stone socks

Lanyards

Corps Pattern Belt

Anodised rank/RMs

Black shoes ²

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. Beret with anodised badge. Band personnel wear caps.
2. Desert boots may be worn when issued (certain drafts/appts only).

3BW Dress - General Duty Dress White - 'Tropical Training Rig'

Occasions for wear

Informal day rig worn ashore and afloat.

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

Beret/Cap ¹

Stone short sleeved shirt

Stone shorts

Stone socks ²

Black shoes/Desert boots ³

Corps Pattern Belt

Anodised rank/RMs

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. Beret with anodised badge. Band personnel wear caps.
2. Long socks worn as ordered.
3. Desert boots may be worn if issued for certain drafts/appts.

3CW Dress - General Duty Dress White - 'Tropical Working Rig'

Occasions for wear

At sea in hot climates

Descriptions of Dress

All Ranks

No equivalent rig to RN

As for No 4T Dress ¹

Decorations/Medals

None

Notes:

1. At time of going to press, an order of dress involving green shorts and T shirts is being investigated as part of the Embarked Force Clothing Study.