

A GUIDE TO WEARING THE CAP CORPORATE UNIFORM

The CAP Corporate Uniform serves as a distinctive equivalent to the U.S. Air Force style uniforms. CAP grooming standards are required, but CAP weight standards are not required for wear of this uniform. This uniform is authorized for wear by CAP senior member officers and NCOs and by cadets over 18 years of age who do not meet CAP weight standards or who choose not to wear the Air Force style uniform combinations.

When the new CAP Corporate Uniform was announced last year (2006) it was received almost equally with praise and scorn, and it has even earned the nickname of 'TPU' (Tony Pineda Uniform), after our National Commander. Like it or hate it, it's probably here to stay, so if you choose to wear this combination, there are certain pointers that need to be followed for wear of this uniform.

THE UNIFORM DESCRIBED

The CAP corporate service dress uniform consists of the following items:

MALES

- Double breasted service dress jacket (in AF shade 1625 doubleknit polyester)
- White aviator-style shirt with epaulets and flap pockets (long or short sleeve)
- Air Force blue herringbone pattern tie
- Air Force blue trousers (in AF shade 1625)
- Flight cap or service cap (preferably AF shade 1625 to match trousers and jacket)
- Blue web belt with polished silver buckle
- Black low-quarter shoes and socks.

FEMALES

- Double breasted service dress jacket (in AF shade 1625 doubleknit polyester)
- White aviator-style shirt with epaulets and flap pockets (long or short sleeve)
- Air Force blue herringbone pattern inverted V tab (not the floppy blue tie)
- Air Force blue trousers or skirt (in AF shade 1625)
- Flight cap or service cap (preferably AF shade 1625 to match trousers and jacket)
- Blue web belt with polished silver buckle (only if the trousers or skirt have belt loops)
- Black low-quarter shoes and socks (if wearing trousers) or neutral hose and black pumps if wearing a skirt

You may wear the AF blue shade 1620 polyester wool trousers and flight cap/service cap from the AF service dress uniform, but you **do not** wear the corporate service dress coat with it. (It won't match and the mismatch is obvious.) Avoid wearing older shade trousers (such as 1549s or 1577s) as they are obsolete.

Most of the uniform items are available through the Civil Air Patrol Store at Vanguard Industries (www.vanguardmil.com) or The Hock Shop (www.thehock.com); however the service dress jacket is only available through Vanguard. The white aviator shirt may be purchased either at Vanguard or through reputable pilot supply stores. The trousers and skirt may also be obtained at Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) military clothing sales stores (MCSS) at Air Force military installations.

The white aviator style shirt may be short sleeve or long sleeve; if a long sleeve shirt is worn, a tie or blouse tab must be worn. Wear of the tie/blouse tab is optional with short sleeve shirts. The most common aviator-style shirt is the Van Heusen Aviator, but there are other aviator-style shirts that may be used. Do not get the shirts with eyelets for the placement of pilot wings.

THE CORPORATE SERVICE DRESS JACKET



The corporate service dress jacket is modeled after the Navy's officer/CPO uniform. Silver sleeve braid replaces dark blue sleeve braid to denote officer status. Metal grade insignia is pinned to the shoulder epaulets. Buttons are the old CAP seal buttons in a bright instead of an antique finish. All exterior welt pockets have been tack-sewn to make them non-functional.

Originally, US cutouts were placed on the lapels, but were later replaced by CAP cutouts. The standard brushed silver AF service dress nameplate has 'CIVIL AIR PATROL' placed over the member's last name. Mandatory wear date for the new U.S. CIVIL AIR PATROL nametag (in blue and silver) is 1 March 2008. Cadets wear the blue plastic three-line nameplate instead of the brushed silver nameplate.



New U.S. CIVIL AIR PATROL nametags for the corporate service uniform.

Silver sleeve braid: worn only by senior member officers. 1/2" wide for grades of FO through Colonel. Brig Gen and Maj Gen (only) wear 1-1/2" wide silver sleeve braid. Braid is worn 3" from the end of the finished sleeve length and all around the sleeve.

Grade insignia: Cadet airmen and NCOs wear grade on the collar lapels as prescribed in CAPM 39-1. Cadet officers wear their grade insignia on the cadet officer shoulder boards. Senior member NCOs wear grade insignia on both sleeves, halfway between the shoulder and elbow. Officers wear metal grade insignia on the epaulets 5/8" from the shoulder seam. (Special insignia wear notes: the stem of the oak leaf on Maj and Lt Col points to the shoulder seam. Colonel's eagles have the eagle's head always facing forward – the grade insignia is designed that way. Brigadier generals wear their star centered on the epaulet.

Ribbons: follow the wear placement rules of CAPM 39-1. The ribbon display shown above does not conform to regulation. Military ribbons earned (in their proper order of precedence before any CAP ribbons) may be worn.

Badges: Wear full size (3") aeronautical rating badges. Again, the picture above shows the model wearing 2" miniature wings, which is incorrect. Only CAP badges may be worn; no military badges or aeronautical ratings. Up to four badges may be worn; refer to CAPM 39-1 for placement rules, which are the same for the USAF style service dress jacket.

White shirt (aviator style) must be worn with the AF blue herringbone tie or overblouse tab when the service jacket is worn. A black bow tie may be worn for more formal occasions in the same way as the semi-formal uniform; remember to remove the nametag if doing so.



Brigadier General Amy Coulter, CAP National Vice Commander and Maj Gen Antonio Pineda, CAP National Commander both wear the CAP corporate uniform jacket at the annual CAP Legislative Day in Washington D.C. Notice that General Coulter is wearing the female version of the jacket, though she is incorrectly wearing the blue plastic two line nametag and narrow silver braid for the officer grades of colonel and below. General Pineda is wearing the correct nametag and braid – notice the difference. The lay of the female overblouse tab varies in appearance depending on where it is placed under the collar.

HEADGEAR

Air Force style flight cap or service cap. Cadets and senior member NCOs wear flight caps with blue piping; officers in the grades of flight officer through colonel wear flight caps with blue and silver 'zipper' piping and general officers wear flight caps with full silver piping. Officers wear the CAP senior member flight cap device, 1-1/2" from the front of the flight cap on the left side.

For those who wear the service cap, the following rules apply:

Cadet officers (when authorized by the wing commander) and senior member NCOs wear the standard service cap with black leather chin strap.

Senior member officers wear the service cap with silver braided chin strap. Officers in the grades of major through colonel have clouds and darts (in a pattern of four – two on each side) on the visor. General officers have clouds and darts in a pattern of six – three on each side.

The service cap and/or flight cap should be of the same shade and weave (AF shade 1625) as the service jacket and trousers.

TROUSERS, SLACKS AND SKIRTS

When you receive the trousers, slacks or skirts for the blue corporate uniform, they will arrive unfinished – they will need to be hemmed before they can be worn properly.

Men's trousers: Trim-fitted with no bunching at waist or bagging at seat; knee and bottom leg widths not altered beyond current specifications for the waist size; front of trouser legs rests on the front of shoe or boot with a slight break in the crease; back of trouser legs will be approximately 7/8 of an inch longer than the front. Trousers and slacks will be full cut, straight hanging and without cuffs. They will not be bloused over boots. Trousers must be worn at the natural waist line and not resting on hips.

Women's slacks: Slacks fit naturally over the hips with no bunching at waist or bagging at seat; bottom front of slacks rests on the front of shoe or boot with a slight break in the crease; back of legs is approximately 7/8 of an inch longer than the front. Tailored straight hanging, no flare at bottom, with two one-quarter front pockets and center fly-front opening or center front closure with front and back waist darts, two one-quarter top side pockets, and waist band with five belt loops. They may not be bloused over boots.



Above is a photo of the correct appearance of trousers and slacks when properly tailored.

Skirts: Skirt hangs naturally over the hips with a slight flare; skirt lengths will be no shorter than the top of the kneecap nor longer than the bottom of the kneecap, straight style with belt loops, a kick pleat in back; two pockets, and a pleated front; skirts have a back zipper and lining attached to the waist.

Belt: Woven 1 1/4 inch cotton web or 1 1/4 inch elastic, solid or woven, belt with matching silver-color metal tip and buckle of chrome like finish. Silver tip end of the belt extends beyond the buckle, facing the wearer's left for men, and the wearer's right for women; no blue fabric shows. General officers may wear the "Wing and Star" design, shiny finish emblem and belt buckle.

GENERAL DRESS AND APPEARANCE INSTRUCTIONS (Reference: CAPM 39-1)

1-6. Dress and Appearance. All members of CAP must be well groomed and assure that their appearance at all times reflects credit upon themselves, CAP, and the Air Force. See Table 2-5 of CAPM 39-1 for further clarification. When uniforms are worn, they must be clean, neat and correct in design and specification, properly fitted, and in good condition. Uniforms will be kept zippered, snapped, or buttoned and shoes will be shined and in good repair. Metallic insignia, badges and other devices, including the blue service uniform buttons, must also be maintained in the proper luster and condition.

a. Appearance of Men in Uniform. Articles such as wallets, pencils, pens, watch chains, fobs, pins, jewelry, handkerchiefs, combs, cigars, cigarettes, pipes, and sunglass cases will not be exposed on the uniform. The wear of wristwatches and rings is permitted. The wear of identification bracelets is likewise permitted provided they present a neat and conservative appearance. Conservative sunglasses may be worn, except in military formation. Ribbons, when worn, will be clean and not frayed. Wear of earrings, ornamentation on eyeglass lenses, or visible ornaments around the neck are prohibited while in uniform.

b. Appearance of Women in Uniform. Uniform skirt lengths will be in keeping with the dictates of fashion and good taste, but with due regard to the dignity of the uniform. In any case, skirt lengths will be no higher than above the top of the kneecap or lower than the bottom of the kneecap. Skirts will hang freely and under no circumstances will they be excessively tight. Pencils, pens, pins, handkerchiefs, and jewelry will not be worn or carried exposed on the uniform. One small spherical (ball), conservative, diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver pierced or clip earring per earlobe may be worn. The earring worn in each earlobe must match. Earring should fit tightly without extending below the earlobe. (EXCEPTION: Connecting band on clip earrings.) Other visible ornaments around the neck or on the head, ornamentation on eyeglass lenses, and ankle bracelets are prohibited. Wristwatches, identification bracelets, and a maximum of three conservative rings are permitted. Conservative sunglasses may be worn, except in military formation. Appropriate undergarments will be worn to present a conservative, feminine appearance.

1-7. Wear of Religious Apparel. Members may wear certain visible items of religious apparel while in uniform. Religious apparel is defined as articles of clothing or dress that are part of the doctrine or traditional observance of the religious faith practiced by the member. Hair and grooming practices are not included in the meaning of religious apparel. Jewelry of a religious nature must conform to standards set forth in this regulation for wear of non-religious jewelry. Religious head coverings are authorized only when military headgear is not authorized. Head coverings must be plain dark blue or black without adornment. Also, they may be worn underneath military headgear if they do not interfere with the proper fit or appearance of the headgear. For example, Jewish yarmulkes meet this requirement if they do not exceed 6 inches in diameter.

CAP CORPORATE SERVICE DRESS UNIFORM ITEM ORDERING

CORPORATE UNIFORM ACCESSORIES	OFFICER RANK INSIGNIA, REGULAR SIZE FOR USE ON CORPORATE JACKET
2787200 SILVER BRAID \$3.35 YARD	7150101 2 ND LIEUTENANT \$5.80 PAIR
3088400 SILVER CHIN STRAP \$5.45 EACH	7150200 1 ST LIEUTENANT \$5.55 PAIR
CAP0599LB TWO LINE SILVER BRUSHED NAME PLATE \$9.25	7150300 CAPTAIN \$6.00 PAIR
	7150401 MAJOR \$5.60 PAIR
	7150500 LT COLONEL \$5.20 PAIR
	7150600 COLONEL \$6.20 PAIR

AF BLUE FEMALE SLACKS Shade 1625 (\$45.20 PAIR)	AF BLUE FEMALE SKIRTS Shade 1625 (\$45.20 EACH)
CAP3500A SIZE 6	CAP3600A SIZE 6
CAP3500B SIZE 8	CAP3600B SIZE 8
CAP3500C SIZE 10	CAP3600C SIZE 10
CAP3500D SIZE 12	CAP3600D SIZE 12
CAP3500E SIZE 14	CAP3600E SIZE 14
CAP3500F SIZE 16	CAP3600F SIZE 16
CAP3500G SIZE 18	CAP3600G SIZE 18
CAP3500H SIZE 20	CAP3600H SIZE 20
AF BLUE MALE TROUSERS Shade 1625	AF BLUE EPAULETS
CAP0993B SIZE 28 \$46.70	CAP0747A NO RANK, SENIOR MEMBER
CAP0993D SIZE 30 \$46.70	8400205 2 ND LIEUTENANT \$5.00
CAP0993E SIZE 32 \$46.70	8400305 1 ST LIEUTENANT \$5.00
CAP0993F SIZE 34 \$46.70	8400405 CAPTAIN \$6.00
CAP0993G SIZE 36 \$46.70	8400505 MAJOR \$6.25
CAP0993H SIZE 38 \$46.70	8400605 LT COLONEL \$5.00
CAP0993I SIZE 40 \$46.70	8400705 COLONEL \$6.25
CAP0993J SIZE 42 \$46.70	8400805 BRIG. GENERAL \$10.50
CAP0993K SIZE 44 \$46.70	8400905 MAJOR GENERAL \$11.50
CAP0993L SIZE 46 \$46.70	
CAP0993M SIZE 48 \$46.70	
CAP0993N SIZE 50 \$55.00	
CAP0993O SIZE 52 \$55.00	
CAP0993P SIZE 54 \$55.00	
CAP0993Q SIZE 56 \$55.00	
CAP0993R SIZE 58 \$55.00	
CAP0993S SIZE 60 \$55.00	

MALE DOUBLE BREASTED JACKET (\$160.00 EACH ALL SIZES)	FEMALE DOUBLE BREASTED JACKET (\$160.00 EACH ALL SIZES)
CAP0922AS SIZE 36 SHORT CAP0922A SIZE 36 REGULAR CAP0922AL SIZE 36 LONG	CAP922L12P SIZE 12 PETITE CAP922L12R SIZE 12 REGULAR CAP922L12T SIZE 12 TALL
CAP0922BS SIZE 38 SHORT CAP0922B SIZE 38 REGULAR CAP0922BL SIZE 38 LONG	CAP922L14P SIZE 14 PETITE CAP922L14R SIZE 14 REGULAR CAP922L14T SIZE 14 TALL
CAP0922CS SIZE 40 SHORT CAP0922C SIZE 40 REGULAR CAP0922CL SIZE 40 LONG	CAP922L16P SIZE 16 PETITE CAP922L16R SIZE 16 REGULAR CAP922L16T SIZE 16 TALL
CAP0922DS SIZE 42 SHORT CAP0922D SIZE 42 REGULAR CAP0922DL SIZE 42 LONG	CAP922L18P SIZE 18 PETITE CAP922L18R SIZE 18 REGULAR CAP922L18T SIZE 18 TALL
CAP0922ES SIZE 44 SHORT CAP0922E SIZE 44 REGULAR CAP0922EL SIZE 44 LONG	CAP922L20P SIZE 20 PETITE CAP922L20R SIZE 20 REGULAR CAP922L20T SIZE 20 TALL
CAP0922FS SIZE 46 SHORT CAP0922F SIZE 46 REGULAR CAP0922FL SIZE 46 LONG	CAP922L22P SIZE 22 PETITE CAP922L22R SIZE 22 REGULAR CAP922L22T SIZE 22 TALL
CAP0922GS SIZE 48 SHORT CAP0922G SIZE 48 REGULAR CAP0922GL SIZE 48 LONG	
CAP0922HS SIZE 50 SHORT CAP0922H SIZE 50 REGULAR CAP0922HL SIZE 50 LONG	
CAP0922IS SIZE 52 SHORT CAP0922I SIZE 52 REGULAR CAP0922IL SIZE 52 LONG	
CAP0922JS SIZE 54 SHORT CAP0922J SIZE 54 REGULAR CAP0922JL SIZE 54 LONG	
CAP0922KS SIZE 56 SHORT CAP0922K SIZE 56 REGULAR CAP0922KL SIZE 56 LONG	
CAP0922KM SIZE 58 REGULAR CAP0922KML SIZE 58 LONG	

THE CIVIL AIR PATROL BLUE DISTINCTIVE CORPORATE UNIFORM

SQUADRON/GROUP COMMANDER BADGE

Worn on the right pocket 1/2" above the nametag and centered. Only sitting squadron/group commanders may wear this badge.

AERONAUTICAL RATINGS AND SPECIALTY INSIGNIA

Wear 2" size aeronautical rating wings or specialty insignia 1/2" above top row of ribbons; if ribbons are not worn, place them 1/2" above left pocket. NO U.S. MILITARY OR FOREIGN AERONAUTICAL RATINGS OR BADGES MAY BE WORN.

SHOULDER MARK INSIGNIA

Senior member officers wear USAF-style blue shoulder marks that slide onto shirt epaulets. Cadet officers over 18 years old wear blue cadet shoulder marks with miniature cadet officer insignia. Senior member NCOs may wear AF-style senior NCO shoulder mark insignia (MSgt/SMSgt/CMSgt only), pin on metal grade (TSgt and below) on blue shoulder mark (use cadet officer shoulder mark) or sew 3-1/2" stripes on sleeves, halfway between elbow and shoulder seam. Senior members without grade wear CAP cutouts on both sides of collar, 1" from front edge and centered. Cadet Airmen wear CAP cutout on left collar and grade insignia on right collar, 1" from front edge and centered.

RIBBONS

Wear is optional. Senior members may choose to display all or some of their earned ribbons; cadets must display all ribbons earned. Wear of earned military ribbons with CAP ribbons is permitted. Consult CAPM 39-1 and the respective uniformed service's uniform regulations for correct order of precedence.

SPECIALTY TRACK BADGE

Worn centered on the left pocket. Female members may place the specialty track badge 1/2 inch above ribbons and centered. Only one specialty track badge may be worn.

NAMETAG

Senior member officers and NCOs wear two-line blue nametag. Cadets wear three-line blue cadet nametag. Worn resting on (but not over) the right pocket and centered.

THE 'GIG LINE' AND 'BRASS ON BRASS'

Keep shirt edge, end of belt buckle and fly aligned at all times. This is the 'gig line'. Tip of belt does not show any blue material when fastened; this is 'brass on brass'.

BLUE TROUSERS

Shade is Air Force 1625. Be sure to match the shade and weave to the flight cap or if you are planning to wear the corporate service dress coat.

NOTE: When wearing this uniform combination, CAP grooming standards in accordance with CAPM 39-1 must be followed. CAP weight standards do not apply. Short sleeve shirt is shown as an example; when wearing the long sleeve shirt, the Air Force blue tie must be worn. Tie is optional on the short sleeve shirt combination worn as an outer garment.