Marine Corps & Cadet Rank Structure
Purpose

This lesson introduces you to the Marine Corps Rank Structure, including information on officer and enlisted rank, grades, and insignia.
Lesson Objectives

1. Identify Marine Corps officer rank, grade, and insignia.
2. Identify Marine Corps enlisted rank, grade, and insignia.
3. Differentiate between Marine Corps officer and enlisted rank and insignia.
4. Identify Marine Corps officer and enlisted rank structure in sequence.
5. Identify MCJROTC officer & enlisted rank insignia.
- **Rank** - an official position such as a Sergeant or a Captain.

- **Insignia** - a device attached to the uniform that indicates a person’s rank.

- **Warrant Officer** - prior enlisted Marine officers who are technical experts.
Rank and grade in the Marine Corps is used for:

- personnel planning
- recruitment
- selection for training
- development of training needs
- promotions
- assignments
Through the ages, the rank has included symbols such as *feathers, sashes, stripes*, and *showy uniforms*. 
Chevrons (enlisted insignia) are V-shaped stripes whose use in military go back to at least the 12th Century.

The British & French used chevrons (the French word for “roof”) to signify length of service.
Rank, grade, and insignia identify Marines as officers and enlisted.
Enlisted is a anyone who “commits” to military service with specific job specialty.

A Warrant Officer is a prior enlisted Marine with specialties in a certain field such as knowledge, training, and experience with particular systems or equipment.

A Commissioned Officer holds a rank of second lieutenant or above.
Responsibility & Authority:

Officers

Warrant Officers

Enlisted
# Enlisted Rank Structure

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Path to Rank of E-9
# Warrant Officer Rank Structure

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<tr>
<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel</td>
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<td>Colonel</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<td>Major General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lieutenant General</td>
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<tr>
<td>General</td>
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</table>
### General ("Flag") Officers

**"Be My Little General"**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Officer</th>
<th>0-7</th>
<th>0-8</th>
<th>0-9</th>
<th>0-10</th>
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<td>Lieutenant General</td>
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<tr>
<td>General</td>
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</table>
Of the ranks displayed, which is a Staff Sergeant?

A.  
B.  
C.  
Of the ranks displayed, which is the highest?

A. Lieutenant Colonel
B. Major
Of the ranks displayed, which is the highest?

A. CWO-2
B. CWO-4
Of the ranks displayed, which is the **lowest**?

A. Captain
B. Lieutenant Colonel
C. Major
Because of rank alone, which of the ranks displayed has the greatest responsibility?

A. 1st Lieutenant
B. Gunnery Sergeant
C. Private First Class
## 2017 Pay Scale

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<th>Over 3</th>
<th>Over 4</th>
<th>Over 6</th>
<th>Over 8</th>
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</table>
The cadet enlisted insignia contains a Lamp of Learning device in lieu of crossed rifles used in the Marine Corps.

The Lamp of Learning signifies:
- Intensive study;
- A source of intellect;
- Moral and spiritual illumination.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank Description</th>
<th>Graphic Representation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Cadet Private First Class</td>
<td>![Graphic]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadet Lance Corporal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadet Corporal</td>
<td>![Graphic]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadet Sergeant</td>
<td>![Graphic]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>![Graphic]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Gunnery Sergeant</td>
<td>![Graphic]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet 1st Sergeant</td>
<td>![Graphic]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Sergeant Major</td>
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</table>
## Cadet Officer Rank Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Image</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet First Lieutenant</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Captain</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Major</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Lieutenant Colonel</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Colonel</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet First Lieutenant</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Cadet Second Lieutenant**
- **Cadet First Lieutenant**
- **Cadet Captain**
- **Cadet Major**
- **Cadet Lieutenant Colonel**
- **Cadet Colonel**
Match the USMC rank insignia with its equivalent Cadet rank insignia?

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
Marine Corps Ranks Review
Cadet Private First Class (C/ PFC)
Cadet Lance Corporal
(C/ LCpl)
Cadet Corporal
(C/ Cpl)
Cadet Sergeant
(C/ Sgt)
Cadet Staff Sergeant
(C/ SSgt)
Cadet Gunnery Sergeant (C/ GySgt)
Cadet First Sergeant
(C/ 1stSgt)
Cadet Sergeant Major
(C/ SgtMaj)
Cadet Second Lieutenant (C/ 2ndLt)
Cadet First Lieutenant
(C/ 1stLt)
Cadet Captain
(C/ Capt)
Cadet Major
(C/ Maj)
Cadet Lieutenant Colonel (C/ LtCol)
Cadet Colonel
(C/ Col)
E-2
Private First Class (PFC)
E-3
Lance Corporal (LCpl)
E-4
Corporal (Cpl)
E-5
Sergeant (Sgt)
E-6
Staff Sergeant (SSgt)
E-7
Gunnery Sergeant (GySgt)
E-8
Master Sergeant (MSgt)
E-8
First Sergeant (1stSgt)
E-9
Master Gunnery Sergeant (MGySgt)
E-9
Sergeant Major (SgtMaj)
E-9
Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps (SMMC)
Warrant Officer (WO)
Chief Warrant Officer-2 (CWO-2)
Chief Warrant Officer-3 (CWO-3)
Chief Warrant Officer-4
(CWO-4)
Chief Warrant Officer-5
(CWO-5)
O-1
Second Lieutenant (2ndLt)
O-2
First Lieutenant (1stLt)
O-3
Captain (Capt)
O-4
Major (Maj)
O-5
Lieutenant Colonel (LtCol)
O-6
Colonel (Col)
O-7
Brigadier General (BGen)
O-8
Major General (MGen)
O-9
Lieutenant General (LtGen)
O-10
General (Gen)
Random
Cadet Corporal
(C/ Cpl)
Cadet Second Lieutenant
(C/ 2ndLt)
E-9
Sergeant Major (SgtMaj)
O-5
Lieutenant Colonel (LtCol)
E-9
Master Gunnery Sergeant (MGySgt)
Cadet First Sergeant
(C/ 1stSgt)
Cadet First Lieutenant
(C/ 1stLt)
Chief Warrant Officer-4 (CWO-4)
E-2
Private First Class (PFC)
E-4
Corporal (Cpl)
Chief Warrant Officer-5
(CWO-5)
Cadet Private First Class (C/ PFC)
E-5
Sergeant (Sgt)
O-9
Lieutenant General (LtGen)
O-6
Colonel (Col)
Cadet Sergeant Major
(C/ SgtMaj)
Cadet Lieutenant Colonel (C/LtCol)
E-6
Staff Sergeant (SSgt)
Chief Warrant Officer-3 (CWO-3)
Cadet Lance Corporal (C/ LCpl)
O-2
First Lieutenant (1stLt)
E-7
Gunnery Sergeant (GySgt)
Cadet Colonel
(C/ Col)
E-8
Master Sergeant (MSgt)
Cadet Major
(C/ Maj)
E-8
First Sergeant (1stSgt)
O-8
Major General (MGen)
Cadet Staff Sergeant (C/ SSgt)
E-9
Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps (SMMC)
O-3
Captain (Capt)
E-3
Lance Corporal (LCpl)
O-10
General (Gen)
O-1
Second Lieutenant (2ndLt)
O-4
Major (Maj)
Cadet Gunnery Sergeant
(C/ GySgt)
O-7
Brigadier General (BGen)
Warrant Officer (WO)
Cadet Captain
(C/ Capt)