



**EVERGREEN COMPOSITE SQUADRON
COLORADO WING - CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY**



Dress and Appearance Standards for CAP Members - Quick Reference

The following information is extracted from CAP Manual 39-1, Civil Air Patrol Uniform Manual. This information is provided for quick reference and is not intended to be an all inclusive substitute for the CAP Uniform Manual. Members are responsible for compliance with all contents of CAP Manual 39-1. A link to the full manual is available on the Evergreen Composite Squadron website.

CAP members are authorized to wear the appropriate CAP uniform when engaged in normal duties as a CAP member or attending local, wing/region, or national CAP functions. Do not wear the uniform more than 1 hour following the close of the activity except for travel time to and from such activities, for which the uniform is specified. Members *are not authorized* to wear the uniform outside of authorized CAP activities unless specific approval is obtained from appropriate commanders.

Do not wear the uniform:

- At any meeting or demonstration that is a function of, or sponsored by, any organization, association, movement, group or combination of persons that the Attorney General of the United States has designated as Totalitarian, Fascist, Communist, or subversive; or advocates or approves the commission of acts of force or violence to deny others their rights under the constitution of the United States; or seeks to alter the form of the United States Government by unconstitutional means.
- When participating in activities such as public speeches, interviews, picket lines, marches, rallies, or in any public demonstration not approved by the Air Force. Wearing the uniform may imply sanction of the cause for which the demonstration or activity is conducted.
- When furthering private employment or commercial interests, if official sponsorship might be inferred.
- When engaged in private employment.
- Under any circumstance that would tend to bring discredit or reproach upon the uniform.
- In a foreign country except for members on orders to participate in the International Air Cadet Exchange or other international events for which National Headquarters has expressly authorized the wearing of the uniform.

1-6. 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. 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.

b. 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.

a. 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.

Table 1-2. Personal Grooming Standards

Line 1 - Beards (Men) May be worn only with the CAP distinctive uniforms, i.e., field uniform, utility uniform, blazer combination, aviator shirt, golf shirt or CAP flight suit. Beards will not be worn with any Air Forces style uniform.

Line 2 - Cosmetics (Women) Will be conservative and in good taste.

Line 3 - Hair (Men & Women) will be clean, well groomed and neat. If dyed, hair will look natural. Hair will not contain excessive amounts of grooming aids. Hair will not touch eyebrows when groomed or protrude below the front band of properly worn headgear. **EXCEPTION:** Hair may be visible in front of women's flight cap.

Line 4 - Hair Styles (Men) will have a tapered appearance on both sides and back, both with and without headgear. A tapered appearance is one that when viewed from any angle outlines the individual's hair so that it conforms to the shape of the head, curving inward to the natural termination point. Block cut permitted with tapered appearance. Hair will not be worn in an extreme or fad style or in such a way that exceeds length or bulk standards or violates safety requirements. Will not touch the ears and only closely cut or shaved hair on the back of the neck may touch the collar. Will not exceed 1 1/4 inches in bulk regardless of length and not exceed 1/4 inch at the natural termination point. Will not contain or have any visible foreign items attached to it.

Line 5 - Hair Styles (Women) will be styled to present a professional appearance. Plain and conservative pins, combs, headbands, elastic bands, and barrettes similar to the individual's hair color permitted to keep hair in place. Will not be worn in an extreme or fad style or violate safety requirements. Hair will not extend in length, on all sides below an invisible line drawn parallel to the ground at the bottom edge of the shirt collar at the back of the neck. Will not exceed 3 inches in

bulk or prevent proper wear of headgear. Hair will not include hair ornaments such as ribbons or jeweled pins.

Line 6 - Mustache (Men) will not extend downward beyond the lip line of the upper lip or extend to the sides beyond a vertical line drawn upward from the corner of the mouth.

Line 7 - Sideburns (Men) will be neatly trimmed and tapered in the same manner as the haircut. Will be straight and of even width (not flared) and end in a clean-shaven horizontal line. Sideburns will not extend below the lowest part of the exterior ear opening.

Line 8 - Wigs and Hairpieces (Men and Women) Will be in conformance with the same standards required for natural hair, be of good quality, and fit properly. Will not exceed limits stated for natural hair.

Line 9 - Nails (Women) will have fingernail length that does not interfere with duty performance or hinder proper fit of prescribed safety equipment or uniform items. Polish must be conservative, single color, and in good taste. Nails will not contain any ornamentation.

Table 2-5. Clothing/Accessory Standards

Item 8 - Body Piercing. Members are prohibited from attaching, affixing or displaying objects, articles, jewelry or ornamentation to or through the ear, nose, tongue, or any exposed body part (includes visible through the uniform) when in uniform. EXCEPTION: Women are authorized to wear one small spherical, conservative, diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver pierced, or clip earring per ear lobe and the earring worn in each ear lobe must match. Earring should fit tightly without extending below the ear lobe. (EXCEPTION: Connecting band on clip earrings.)

In Civilian Attire: (1) Official duty: Members are prohibited from attaching, affixing or displaying objects, articles, jewelry or ornamentation to or through the ear, nose, tongue, or any exposed body part (includes visible through clothing) when representing CAP in civilian attire. EXCEPTION: Women are authorized to wear one earring per ear lobe and the earring worn in each ear lobe must match. The type and style of earrings worn by women on a military installation should be conservative and kept within sensible limits. (2) Off duty on a military installation when there with CAP activities: Members are prohibited from attaching, affixing or displaying objects, articles, jewelry or ornamentation to or through the ear, nose, tongue, or any exposed body part (includes visible through clothing). EXCEPTION: Piercing of ear lobes by women is allowed, but should not be extreme or excessive. The type and style of earrings worn by women on a military installation should be conservative and kept within sensible limits.

CAP Manual 39-1, Civil Air Patrol Uniform Manual, is the official source for all questions pertaining to uniform issues. Compliance with this manual is mandatory for all CAP members.