



## **ARMY DRESS REGULATIONS (ALL RANKS)**

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### **Part 13 Instructions for the Wearing of the Insignia of Orders, Decorations and Medals**

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Ministry of Defence

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# SECTION 1 - GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

## SCOPE

**13.01** This Part of Army Dress Regulations deals with the wearing of Orders, Decorations and Medals worn on uniform and plain clothes. Details on the award of Orders, Decorations and Medals are contained in Army General and Administrative Instructions (AGAI) Volume 2 Chapter 68. Details and terms of eligibility for the granting of honours and awards are given in Queen's Regulations (QRs) Part 10, and also in JSP 761 Honours and Awards in the Armed Forces. The authority for the wearing of Foreign Orders, Decorations and Medals is also contained in QRs.

**13.02 Application.** This Part applies to serving officers and soldiers of the Regular Army and Territorial Army, as appropriate.

**13.03 Layout.** This Part is set out in 5 sections as follows:

- a. Section 1 - General Instructions.
- b. Section 2 - Method of wearing ribbons of Orders, Decorations and Medals and the Decorations themselves.
- c. Section 3 - Manner in which insignia of Orders, Decorations and Medals are worn.
- d. Section 4 - Foreign Orders, Decorations and war Medals.
- e. Section 5 - Order of wearing Orders, Decorations and Medals.
- f. Section 6 – Elizabeth Cross

## GENERAL

**13.04 Terminology.** Throughout this Part the term riband is used for any material from which may be suspended Orders, Decorations or Medals. The term ribbon is used for that material that is stitched directly on to uniform to denote the award of an Order, Decoration or Medal.

## **SECTION 2 - METHOD OF WEARING RIBBONS OF ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS AND THE DECORATIONS THEMSELVES**

### **WEARING OF ORDERS, DECORATIONS, MEDALS AND RIBBONS**

**13.05 General.** Service personnel may only wear on uniform or in civilian clothes orders, decorations, medals, ribbons and emblems awarded to them or approved for them to wear by HM The Queen. This precludes Service personnel from wearing any order, decoration, medal, ribbon or emblem awarded to another whether a friend or relative. Criminal proceedings of fraud may be initiated against Service personnel and civilians who seek to benefit in any way from wearing any order, decoration, medal, ribbon or emblem to which they are not entitled.

### **WEARING OF RIBBONS**

**13.06 Ribbons.** When ribbons are worn without the Orders, Decorations and Medals themselves, all are to be worn except those of The Orders of the Garter and Thistle. The dimensions of ribbons of Orders, when the ribbon alone is worn, are to be the width of the ribands of Membership of the Order. If there is no Membership class, the ribbon is to be the width of the ribands of Companionship of the Order. All ribbons are to be 9.525mm deep ie from top to bottom.

**13.07 Positioning of Ribbons.** Ribbons are to be placed centrally over the left breast pocket button. They are worn in rows, the senior ribbon positioned nearest the jacket lapel or front buttons and in the top row when multiple rows are worn. No ribbon should be fully hidden by the lapel. The number of ribbons worn in a complete row is governed by the width of the breast pocket as the bottom row of medal ribbons is not to exceed the width of the breast pocket seam. On uniforms with no breast pocket, the number of medal ribbons on the bottom row is not to exceed 5. When 2 or more rows are worn and there are insufficient ribbons to complete a row, it is the top row which is incomplete. The incomplete row is to be placed centrally above the top complete row, and is to contain ribbons of the senior Orders, Decorations or Medals. Each row of ribbons is to be centred above the breast pocket button resulting in any variation of row length being distributed equally at each end of the row. . Rows are to be approximately 3.175 mm apart and the ribbon width is to be the same width as the ribbon worn with the order, decoration or medal

**13.08** Ribbons are to be stitched to the garment, preferably mounted on buckram or similar material except when being placed on warm weather area clothing when they are worn on detachable brooches. Brooches are provided at public expense to ORs but should be purchased and sewn at officers' individual expense. Step brooches are recommended.

**13.09** Ribbons for life-saving awarded by the Royal Humane Society and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution are to be worn on the right breast in uniform. These Medals are:

- a. St John of Jerusalem Life Saving Medal (Gold, Silver, Bronze).
- b. Stanhope Gold Medal.

- c. Royal Humane Society's Silver Medal.
- d. Royal Humane Society's Bronze Medal.
- e. Medal of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (Gold, Silver, Bronze).

## **WEARING OF ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS**

**13.010 Where Worn.** Orders, Decorations and Medals normally worn on the left breast are to be worn in a horizontal line, suspended from a single unseen brooch. On the Full Dress tunic they are to be placed midway between the first and second buttons from the bottom of the collar. In other orders of dress when a Medal brooch is used, this is to be placed directly over any ribbons already stitched to the garment.

**13.011 How Worn.** When Decorations and Medals cannot, on account of their number, be suspended from the longest brooch so as to be fully seen, they are to overlap with the first Medal fully exposed. Medals are to be worn so as to show the Sovereign's head. The first clasp earned is to be worn nearest the Medal, additional clasps being worn above the first, according to the date the individual entered the relevant operational area. Officers are to obtain any Medal brooches required from regimental tailors under their own arrangements at personal expense.

**13.012 Brooches.** Soldiers may be issued with a brooch of sufficient size to carry the authorised Medal or Medals. Additionally:

- a. Brooches are issued in sizes 1 to 6. Size 1 is equal to the width of one Medal riband with each subsequent size being the width of an additional riband.
- b. When a new Decoration or Medal is awarded, the brooches in possession are to be replaced, as necessary, with the correct size brooch or brooches sufficient to carry the additional Medal or ribbon in the manner prescribed above. Brooches, which are so replaced, are to be withdrawn and held for re-issue to other soldiers as necessary.
- c. Initial issues and maintenance of brooches is to be made at public expense. Free replacement issues are only to be made when brooches in use become unserviceable through fair wear and tear and in place of one of insufficient size for subsequent awards.
- d. To allow Medal ribbons to be detached easily from the uniform an issue of a brooch or brooches is to be made to each soldier entitled to wear Medals or an emblem, who is posted to warm weather area as described in Part 10 of these Regulations. The brooches issued are to be sufficient to allow each ribbon to be fully exposed.
- e. Demands for brooches are made through the usual channels, being limited to the minimum required. Demands for brooches under Sub-Paragraph d are to be made only for those clothed to warm weather scales.
- f. Medals with ribands attached or ribbons alone are to be fixed to brooches by the unit tailor's shop or contract tailor and charged to public funds.

**13.013 Riband Length.** When Decorations and Medals are worn the riband is to be 31.750

mm or more long. When 2 or more Decorations or Medals are worn they are to be arranged so that the lower edges, or lowest point of a star, are in line. Owing to the differing lengths of Decorations and Medals it may be necessary to wear ribands longer than 31.750 mm. The addition of clasps to a Medal may also necessitate the wearing of a longer riband. For miniatures, the overall length of the riband and the Order badge, decoration or medal should not exceed 57mm.

**13.014 Awarded Decoration or Medal not Received.** A corresponding length of riband to that described in the paragraph above is to be worn in respect of any Decoration or Medal awarded but not received. Clearly this only applies on occasions when Medals are worn.

## **COURT MOUNTING OF MEDALS**

**13.015 Policy.** Medals may be court mounted at private expense. In the interest of uniformity, the policy for court mounting in units will be left at the discretion of regiments and corps. Medals are only court mounted at public expense for officers and soldiers in recognised appointments within:

- a. The Household Division (irrespective of where an individual may be stationed),
- b. The State Bands,
- c. HQ LONDIST,
- d. PS12,
- e. Public Duties battalions in London and Scotland,
- f. The Band and Pipes and Drums of the Royal Regiment of Scotland.

### **13.016 Method of Court Mounting**

a. **Full Size Medals.** A backing of buckram 69.85 mm deep by width required, depending on the number of Medals. Medal ribbons should be placed side by side up to and including a quantity of 6 Medals unless the width of these 6 medals extends past the left shoulder seam of the uniform. In this instance, the 6 medals may be overlapped. 7 or more court mounted medals should always be overlapped with the senior ribbon nearest the centre of the chest being left fully exposed. The overlap of ribbons will vary depending on the number of Medals worn and the size of the individual's chest. At no time should more than two-thirds of any ribbon be covered by another; the overlap of each ribbon should be equal. The Medal is suspended from a ribbon so as to allow the centre of a round Medal to be cut in half by the backing, ie the nose of the impression of a sovereign's head on a Medal should rest on the bottom edge of the backing. The overall length of a suspended Medal will be 88.9 mm. No Medal should be suspended from less than 31.74 mm of Medal riband; in the case of a larger Order, Decoration or Medal, the backing may be increased to 76.2 mm depth to allow a minimum of 31.74 mm of riband suspending the Medal. A standard issue Medal brooch should be sewn to the back of the buckram. The back overall should be covered by a black face cloth or doeskin, with the exception of the Guards Division, whose Medals are backed with scarlet. Medals are sewn

down with a neutral coloured thread. When mounted, the bottom edges of the Medals, regardless of their size, should be level.

b. **Miniature Medals.** Miniature medals may be worn court mounted or in an ordinary style. In both instances, medals are to be suspended from ribands of a width of 16mm. The length of the brooch should not normally exceed 14.7cm i.e. nine miniatures not overlapped but a larger number of miniatures may necessitate a longer brooch to avoid overlapping. If the number of miniatures can not be sensibly fitted to a longer brooch, then miniatures may be overlapped. At no time should more than two-thirds of any ribbon be covered by another; the overlap of each ribbon should be equal. When court mounted, the medal is suspended from a ribbon so as to allow the centre of a round Medal to be cut in half by the backing, ie the nose of the impression of a sovereign's head on a Medal should rest on the bottom edge of the backing. The bottom edges of miniatures should be aligned and not exceed 57mm from the top of the riband to the lowest point of the miniature. The lengths of each individual riband will consequently vary according to the height of each order badge, decoration and medal. The number of clasps, bars or emblems attached to the riband of any miniature may require that ribands across the whole brooch be of additional length. Sets of miniatures are illustrated at Annex A to Section 3.

## **PAYMENT FOR ALTERATIONS TO RIBBONS AND MEDALS**

**13.017 Officers.** Officers are responsible for ensuring that the arrangement of their ribbons, full size and miniature medals worn on uniforms conforms in all respects to these regulations. No additions or alterations to ribbons, full size or miniature medals may be done at public expense on any uniform unless an officer is in one of the categories listed that requires full size medals to be court mounted (Para 13.015). Officers are responsible for their miniature medals irrespective of their current appointment.

**13.018 Other Ranks.** Other Ranks may have all additions or alterations to ribbons and full size medals carried out at public expense provided that full size medals are swing mounted. If an individual's Corps or Regimental Dress Policy requires full size medals to be court mounted, then any alteration or addition must be done at the individual's expense. All Other Ranks are responsible for their miniature medals irrespective of their current appointment.

## **FULL DRESS**

**13.019 Wearing of Awards.** The wearing of insignia of Orders, Decorations and Medals by those personnel authorised to wear Full Dress, is implicit in the authority to wear this order of dress on appropriate occasions.

## **WEARING THE INSIGNIA OF ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS**

**13.020 When Worn.** The insignia of Orders, Decorations and Medals are to be worn on the following occasions:

- a. State occasions.
- b. Royal occasions.
- c. Guards in London.
- d. Military funerals and connected memorial services.
- e. Guards on Royal residencies.
- f. Guards of honour.
- g. Guards in Edinburgh.
- h. Ceremonial and Sovereign's parades.
- i. Parades incorporating a religious service.
- j. As specifically ordered.

**13.021 Royal Occasions.** It is considered to be a Royal occasion when:

- a. The Sovereign or her representative is present.
- b. A parade is held in celebration of any Sovereign's birthday.
- c. Specifically ordered on the occasion of any parade, ceremony or entertainment at which a Member of the Royal Family is present.

**13.022 Orders of Dress on Which Awards are to be Worn.** Orders, Decorations and Medals are worn with the following orders of dress:

- a. Full Dress, and Frockcoat (Not H Div).
- b. Nos 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10 and 11 Dress.
- c. No 8 Dress when authorised by regional commanders for specific parades.

**13.023 When Awards are not Worn.** Orders, Decorations and Medals are not to be worn:

- a. On greatcoats.
- b. When attending an Investiture.
- c. When attending Royal garden parties.
- d. When attending parades or ceremonies as a spectator unless ordered to wear them.
- e. On operational or protective clothing.

**13.024 Restriction on Numbers of Awards Worn.** The maximum number of insignia of Orders, Decorations and Medals which may be worn in particular orders of dress is at Annex A to this section.

**13.025 Miniatures.** Miniature Decorations and Medals are only to be worn in No 10 Dress, No 11 Dress and Evening Dress as described in Annex B to Section 3 of this regulation.

**13.026 Orders of Dress.**

- a. Annex B to this Section lays down which Orders, Decorations and Medals may be worn in Full Ceremonial Day Dress, Ceremonial Day Dress, Non Ceremonial Day Dress,

Full Ceremonial Evening Dress and Ceremonial Evening Dress.

b. When No 1 Dress (ceremonial) is worn the insignia of Orders, Decorations and Medals are always to be worn by all ranks.

**13.027 Female Recipients.** There is no distinction in the Badges, decorations and medals issued to males or females. Therefore females wear the same Stars, Broad Ribands, badges, decorations and medals and the rules governing the wearing of these are the same as their male counterparts. The only occasion that this is not practical is in No 10 or No 11 Dress when a female who is entitled to a neck decoration is in a Corps or Regiment that wears a dress in place of black tie or high collar. In this instance, a female would wear the full size neck decoration attached to a full size bow. The bow and decoration should be attached to the dress centrally and below any brooch bar with miniature medals.



**ANNEX A TO SECTION 2 - RESTRICTIONS ON NUMBER OF AWARDS WORN**

<b>Serial and Tri-Svc Dress Description</b>	<b>Accessories</b>	<b>Army</b>		
		<b>(As per entitlement - Note 1)</b>		
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>	<b>(e)</b>
1. Full Ceremonial Day		General Officer Frockcoat	No 1 Dress with Ceremonial Accoutrements	No 1 Dress or No 2 Dress with Sam Browne
	Broad riband/collar	Yes	Yes	No
	Stars of Orders maximum (See Notes 2 & 3)	4	4	2
	Neck decorations (Note 4)	2	2	2
	Medals	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Swords (Note 5)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 Ceremonial Day.		General Officer Frockcoat	No 1 Dress with Ceremonial Accoutrements	No 1 Dress or No 2 Dress with Sam Browne
	Broad riband/collar	No	No	No
	Stars of Orders maximum (Note 2)	2	2	2
	Neck decorations (Note 4)	1	1	1
	Medals	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Swords (Note 5)	Yes	Yes	Yes

		General Officer Frockcoat	No 1 Dress	No 2 Dress
3 Non-Ceremonial Day.	Broad riband/collar	No	No	No
	Stars of Orders maximum	No	No	No
	Neck decorations	No	No	No
	Medals	No	No	No
	Swords (Note 5)	No	No	No
		No 10 Dress with stiff shirt		
4 Full Ceremonial Evening	Broad riband	Yes		
	Stars of Orders maximum (Note 2)	4		
	Neck decorations	1 (Note 6)		
	Miniature medals	Yes		
		No 10 Dress with stiff shirt or soft shirt		
5 Ceremonial Evening	Broad riband/collar	No		
	Stars of Orders maximum (Note 2)	4		
	Neck decorations	1		
	Miniature medals	Yes		
		No 10 Dress with stiff shirt or soft shirt		
6. Non-Ceremonial Evening	Broad riband/collar	No		
	Stars of Orders maximum (Note 2)	No		
	Neck decorations	No (Note 6)		
	Miniature medals	Yes		
		No 10 Dress with stiff shirt or soft shirt		

Notes:

- Column (c) refers to those officers entitled to wear General Officer Frockcoats and is to be worn with gold and crimson waist sash. Column (d) refers to those officers entitled to wear Ceremonial Accoutrements. Column (e) refers to those officers not so entitled in columns (c) and (d). Crossbelts may be worn according to regimental dress code.
- May include one foreign star on appropriate occasions.

3. Two stars only when Sam Browne is worn.
4. May include one foreign neck decoration on appropriate occasions and very unusually, at single Service functions, a third neck decoration may be worn in Full Ceremonial Day if so entitled.
5. Unless otherwise ordered. Swords with Frockcoat: sword belt and slings are to be worn outside the frockcoat under the waist sash; when sword not worn, sword belt and slings are not worn either. The sword is never to be hooked up on the sword belt. When the wearing of a sword in a car or at an outdoor ceremonial function is likely to be an encumbrance, permission to omit the sword may be issued by the Service co-ordinating the occasion. Swords are not worn by QARANC officers.
6. Neck decorations are worn in miniature on a medal brooch alongside other miniatures. Female officers should wear insignia of one neck decoration on a bow on left shoulder if Mess Dress is the dress style (see Para 13.026).
7. Aiguillettes are worn in No 1 and 2 Dress in all levels of ceremonial. While aiguillettes are worn in No 10 Dress full ceremonial and ceremonial, they are not worn in No 10 Dress non-ceremonial.

**ANNEX B TO SECTION 2 – ORDERS & DECORATIONS WORN IN VARYING ORDERS OF DRESS**

(a)	Full Dress, Frock Coat, Nos 1 and 3 Dress Full Ceremonial	Nos 1, 2 and 4 Dress with Sam Browne Ceremonial	Nos 10 and 11 Dress Full Ceremonial	Nos 10 and 11 Dress Ceremonial	No 6 Dress
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(d)	(e)
Grand Cross riband	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Stars on breast (one foreign star may be included in this number)	4	2	4	2	Nil
Neck decorations	2 (Note 2)	2	1	1	Nil
Medals (including Orders worn on breast and Decorations)	All	All	All (miniature)	All (miniature)	Nil

Notes:

1. When attending functions organised by or for the representative of a foreign state, the Orders and Decorations of that state should be worn by officers entitled to do so. The conditions under which such Orders and Decorations may be worn are given at Section 3 of this Part.
2. May include one foreign neck decoration on appropriate occasions and very unusually, at single Service functions, a third neck decoration may be worn in Full Ceremonial Day if so entitled

## SECTION 3 - MANNER IN WHICH INSIGNIA OF ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS ARE WORN

### GENERAL

**13.028 Pictorial Guide.** A pictorial guide to wearing Orders, Decorations and Medals is at Annex A to this section.

### INSIGNIA OF THE 1ST CLASS (eg GCB AND GBE)

**13.029 On State Occasions.** On State Occasions Knights of the Garter and Thistle, Knights Grand Cross, and Dames Grand Cross of other British Orders of Knighthood are to wear the broad riband of the order.

**13.030 Full Dress, Nos 1 and 3 Dress.** The Knight Grand Cross ribands of British Orders of Knighthood are worn over the shoulder as follows:

- Order of the Garter            )    over the left shoulder.
- Order of the Thistle           )
- All other Orders                    )    over the right shoulder.

The badge of the First Class is never to be worn round the neck as a neck Decoration when in uniform. The riband is to be worn under the shoulder strap, aiguillette and waist belt or sash. The bow from which the badge is suspended is to rest on the hip immediately below the belt or sash. Stars are worn on the left breast. When 2 stars are worn the senior star is placed directly above the other. When 3 stars are worn they are placed triangularly and when 4 stars are worn they are placed in a diamond formation; in each case the senior star is to be worn on top, except that in the case of 3 stars the junior stars may be worn horizontally in line with the senior star on top. The senior of the 2 stars worn horizontally is to be placed nearest the centre of the chest. A diagrammatic guide to wearing Orders, Decorations and Medals is at Annex A to this section.



Breast Star for

Knight Grand Cross of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (GBE)

**13.031 Collars of Orders of Knighthood.** The collar of Orders is worn on the days listed at Annex C to this section and on other days when due notification is given. They are not to be worn when mounted or after sunset or at reviews or at ceremonial parades unless directions to that effect are given. They are to be worn passing under the shoulder boards or epaulettes near the outer edge

but over aiguillettes, the collar hanging equidistant front and back. An officer in possession of more than one collar must only wear one collar at a time. When the collar from which the badge is suspended is worn, the broad riband of that Order is not to be worn but it may be replaced by the broad riband of another Order which the individual is entitled to wear. In uniform, collars are only to be worn with Full or No 1 Dress and are not to be worn with morning dress unless ordered for a special occasion such as a service of an Order of chivalry. When so ordered they are to be worn as described for uniform.

**13.032 Nos 2, 4 and 6 Dress.** Collars and broad ribands of Orders are not worn. Stars of Orders are worn on the left breast immediately below the medals, the latter being placed sufficiently high on the chest to allow this. When 2 stars are worn the senior star is to be placed directly above the other.

### **INSIGNIA OF THE 2ND CLASS (KNIGHT COMMANDER) (KCB, KCVO OR KBE)**

**13.033 Full Dress, Nos 1 and 3 Dress.** The riband of miniature width, with the badge attached, is worn round the neck, inside and under the collar of the jacket or tunic, so that the badge hangs outside with about 19 mm of riband showing below the collar. A Knight Commander, if in possession of badges of more than one Order, is to wear the badge of the highest grade as indicated above. The remainder are to be worn according to grade, one below the other, beginning about 25.5 mm below the senior badge, each suspended from a riband tunic slip emerging about 19 mm below the buttons of the tunic. A small eye is stitched inside the garment, to which the riband is to be fastened by a hook. In uniform, full size neck badges only are to be worn round the neck; any which on account of their number cannot be so worn are not to be worn on the breast with other Decorations and Medals. Stars are to be worn on the left breast in the same manner as for Full Dress, Nos 1 and 3 Dress.



Neck decoration and breast star of

Knights of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE)

**13.034 Nos 2 and 4 Dress.** Stars are to be worn on the left breast in accordance with the instructions for wearing stars in Para 13.030. In the case of Neck Decorations, an officer in possession of a single badge is to wear it round the neck with the riband of Companion or Membership width under the shirt collar and badge over the tie (chaplains over the clerical stock). An officer in possession of badges of more than one Order is to wear the badge of the higher grade as described above; the second badge is to be worn below the other, suspended from a riband emerging about 19 mm below the top button hole of the jacket, a small eye being stitched inside the

garment, to which the riband is to be fastened by a hook. In uniform, full size neck badges only are to be worn round the neck; any which, on account of their number, cannot be so worn are not to be worn on the breast.

### **INSIGNIA OF THE 3RD CLASS (COMPANION OR COMMANDER) (CB OR CBE)**

**13.035 Full Dress, Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4 Dress.** The riband with the badge attached is to be worn around the neck in the same manner as prescribed for the 2nd class.



Neck decoration of  
Companion of the Most Excellent Order of the Bath (CB)

### **INSIGNIA OF THE 4TH AND 5TH CLASSES (OFFICER OR MEMBER) AND BADGE OF A COMPANION OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER**

**13.036 Where Worn.** The insignia are to be worn on the left breast in the position assigned to them.

### **MESS DRESS**

**13.037 Wearing of Miniatures.** Miniature decorations and medals are always to be worn with Mess Dress and on civilian evening dress when considered appropriate.

**13.038 Size of Miniatures.** Miniatures of Orders, Decorations and Medals are to be approximately half size, except that Knights Grand Cross, Knight Commanders or Companions are to wear the miniatures prescribed in the statutes of the respective Orders.

**13.039 Knights Grand Cross, Knights Commanders and Companions.** Knights Grand Cross, Knight Commanders and Companions are to wear miniatures of the badges on their left breast with other miniature Decorations and Medals even when broad ribands and stars are worn on Mess Dress.

**13.040 Neck Decorations.** The full-size badge is suspended from a miniature width riband (16mm or 5/8<sup>th</sup> in) and is fastened at the back by a “hook and eye”. The riband should fit neatly around the lower edge of the collar of the shirt (emerging at either side from under the neck band of the white or black tie) and below the collar “wings” and the bow tie, so that the badge hangs centrally with the top of the suspension ring no more than 25mm below the tie knot. If a soft “turn down” collar is worn, the riband is worn under the collar. When the holder of a badge is in possession of only one Decoration, which is being worn as a neck Decoration, this should not be

worn in miniature at the same time.

**13.041 Mess Dress in Ceremonial Order of Dress.** When Mess Dress is worn as a ceremonial order of dress the following insignia may be worn with it, in addition to miniature Orders and Medals:

A broad riband and badge of the Knight Grand Cross in Full Ceremonial Evening only.

A maximum of 4 stars in Full Ceremonial Evening or maximum 2 in Ceremonial Evening.

One neck Decoration.

**13.042 Broad Ribands.** The broad ribands of Knights of the Orders of the Garter and Thistle and Knights Grand Cross of other British Orders are worn under the Mess Dress jacket but over the waistcoat and are not to pass over the shoulder and down the back as with the uniform coat. The riband is fastened on the waistcoat under the armhole with 2 holes and buttons and at the opposite hip front by means of a buttonhole and pointed flap. The top edge of the riband is to be fashioned to avoid sagging and undue covering of the shirt front. The broad ribands of Knights of the Orders of the Garter and Thistle are fastened at the front of the left armhole, the badge resting on the right hip. The broad ribands of other British Orders are fastened resting on the left hip. Only one broad riband is to be worn. Officers in possession of more than a single riband should normally wear the senior riband but if thought more appropriate on a specific occasion a junior one may be worn instead.

**13.043 Where Stars are Worn.** Stars are to be worn on the left breast of the Mess Dress jacket as prescribed in Para 13.030.

**13.044 Restriction on Number of Neck Decorations Worn.** One badge only (full size) is to be worn round the neck. It is usual for the senior one to be worn unless a junior one should appear more appropriate to the occasion. All badges are also to be worn, in miniature, with other decorations and medals on the lapel of the evening coat (but see Paragraph 13.043 below).

**13.045 Insignia Not Worn in Miniature.** The insignia of the Order of the Garter and Thistle, the Order of Merit, the Order of Companions of Honour and the Baronet's Badge are not to be worn in miniature with other decorations and medals on the lapel of the evening coat.

## **BLACK/WHITE TIE DRESS**

**13.046 White Tie.** In White Tie, the same principles apply as for military Mess Dress – Collars are not worn but a Broad Riband and up to four Breast Stars and one Neck Decoration may be worn.

**13.047 Black Tie.** In Dinner Jacket (Black Tie), Collars and Broad Riband are not worn. Only one Breast Star and one Neck Decoration are usually worn. If an individual is a Knight Grand Cross but does not have a Second or Third Class Neck Decoration from another Order, the Broad Riband Badge of the First Class Order of Knighthood is to be worn as a Neck Decoration but it is stressed that this is ONLY if the wearer has no Neck Decoration. If an individual holds two First



Class Orders, he should wear the star of the senior Order and the full-size badge of the second Order as a Neck Decoration. However even as the holder of two First Class Orders, if he holds a Second or Third Class Neck Decoration, this Neck Decoration is to be worn in place of the Badge of the First Class order. Note that this is the only occasion in any order of dress (military or civilian) when the Badge of a First Class Order can be worn as a Neck Decoration.

### **MORNING DRESS**

**13.048** In Morning Dress Collars of Knights Grand Cross are worn when specifically required. Broad ribands of orders are not worn. Usually only one Breast Star and one Neck Decoration are worn however it is to be noted that the Breast and Neck Decoration can NOT be from the same Order of Knighthood. Therefore a KBE who would normally wear a Breast and Neck Decoration in uniform and in Black Tie, can not wear a Neck Decoration in Morning Dress unless he is a Knight Commander in another Order of Knighthood.

### **LOUNGE SUITS**

**13.049** In Lounge Suit, Collars, Broad Riband and Breast Stars are not worn. One Neck Decoration is worn but only by holders of Second or Third Class Orders.

### **EMBLEMS**

**13.050 Emblems Worn on Ribbons of British Decorations and Medals.** The emblems shown at Annex B to this section are to be worn on the ribbons of certain British Decorations and Medals to denote that the wearer has been awarded a bar or bars to the original Decoration or Medal for subsequent acts of bravery and for further distinguished conduct in the field.

### **MENTION IN DESPATCHES, AND QUEEN'S COMMENDATIONS (LEVEL 4 AWARDS)**

**13.051 Mention in Despatches 1945-93.** The single bronze oakleaf emblem is worn on the ribbon and riband of the appropriate General Service or campaign Medal.

**13.052 Mention in Despatches September 1993 Onwards.** The silver oakleaf emblem is worn.

**13.053 Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct and Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air.** Until 26 Apr 94 the single bronze oakleaf emblem denoted an award of these Commendations.

**13.054 Queen's Commendation for Bravery April 1994 Onwards.** A silver laurel spray emblem is worn.

**13.055 Queen's Commendation for Bravery in the Air Apr 94 Onwards.** A silver eagle emblem is worn.

**13.056 Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service September 1993 Onwards.** A silver oak spray emblem is worn.

**13.057 Restriction on Number of Emblems Worn.** Only one emblem for each category of award may be worn on any one medal ribbon.

**13.058 Positioning of the Emblem.** The emblem, worn with the Medal itself, will be affixed to the centre of the riband at an angle of 60 degrees from the inside edge of the riband with the leaf/leaves pointing upwards towards the left shoulder (the silver eagle emblem being worn horizontally). The emblem, when ribbons only are worn, will be affixed horizontally across the ribbon with the stalk furthest from the left shoulder. When 2 or more different emblems are worn on a single riband the order of precedence to be applied from the top is:

Mention in Despatches (MiD)

QCB

QCBA

QCVS

The above precedence applies equally when the emblems have to be worn directly on the jacket but from left to right with the senior MiD close to the buttons.

**13.059** If an appropriate General Service or campaign Medal has not been granted, emblems are to worn directly on the jacket after any Medal ribbons and riband. Emblems are not to be worn on unrelated medals.

**13.060 Miniature Emblems.** Miniature emblems are to be worn with miniature medals if so entitled.

**13.061 Entitlement to wear Orders, Decorations and Medals awarded prior to military service.** A civilian who has been awarded a British Order, decoration or medal with the authority to wear such Order, decoration or medal is entitled to wear the relevant medals and ribbons on British military uniform if he or she subsequently joins the British Armed Forces; eg an individual awarded the George Cross while a civilian is entitled to wear the medals and ribbon on his uniform if he or she subsequently joins the Army.

## ANNEX A TO SECTION 3 - PICTORIAL GUIDE TO WEARING ORDERS, DECORATIONS & MEDALS

### PICTORIAL GUIDE TO WEARING ORDERS, DECORATIONS & MEDALS

FIG 1. Frock Coat with Collar

(Full Ceremonial Day)

Maximum which may be worn:-

Collar (on appropriate occasion)

One Grand Cross riband and badge (of different Order to Collar)

Four Stars ) In order

Two neck ) of  
decorations ) seniority.



Fig 2. No 1 Dress and No 3 Dress

(Full Ceremonial Day)

Maximum that may be worn:-

One Grand Cross riband and badge (of different Order to Collar if Collar worn)

Up to four stars and up to two neck decorations  
in order  
of seniority.

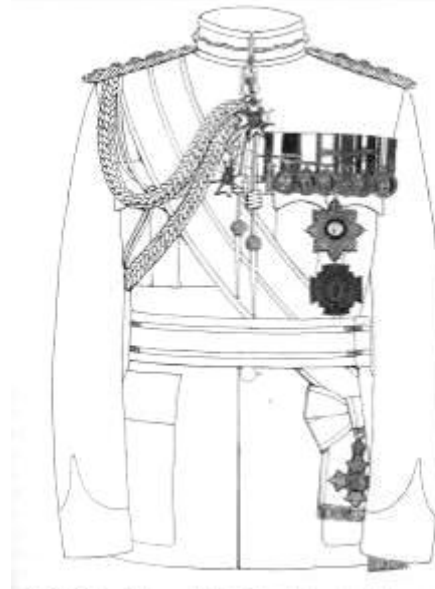


FIG 3. Service Dress

(Full Ceremonial Day)

Showing maximum which may be worn viz:

- Two Stars ) The senior
- Two neck ) above
- decorations ) the junior.



FIG 4. Frock Coat

(Full Ceremonial Day)

Showing the method of wearing aiguillettes with 2 neck decorations.



FIG 5. Mess Dress

(Full Ceremonial Evening)

Showing maximum which may be worn viz:

- Four Stars ) The senior
- One neck ) above
- decorations ) the junior.

Notes: The broad riband and badge of the senior Order is worn (in this case GCB), with the maximum of four breast stars (in this case GCB, GCVO, KBE and Knight of Justice, Order of St. John), and the senior neck decoration (of KBE). These four awards, together with the MC, are represented in correct sequence on the miniature brooch-bar.



FIG 6. Black Tie

Showing the maximum that may worn viz:

One Star and one neck decoration which are to be the senior of each.



FIG 7 - Miniatures

Note that on the set of court mounted miniatures illustrated, campaign medals are worn in chronological order of receipt as are Coronation and Jubilee Medals. Note also the correct order of Long Service and Efficiency Medals with the MSM senior to the ACSM. Rosettes, bars and clasps are miniature versions of those worn on the full sized medals.



The set of swing mounted miniatures show how miniatures of Orders are worn. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class miniature badge and ribbon of each Order is the same irrespective of the class of the Order and in this example, the wearer is displaying honours of the Order of the Bath, Royal Victorian Order and the Order of the British Empire. In general the class of award takes precedent over the seniority of the Order. Without seeing the full sized badges of the three Orders represented on these miniatures, it is not known what class is represented by each miniature. The senior badge here could be a CB (3rd Class) but if so the others must also be 3rd Class ie a CVO and CBE – a KCVO is a higher class and would be worn as the senior badge. In fact the wearer of this set of miniatures has GCB, KCVO and CBE (Civil). His full size



medals would not display any of these Orders which would be represented by breast stars (GCB and KCVO) and neck decorations (KCVO and CBE) although the ribbons of all three would be sewn onto the uniform.

**ANNEX B TO SECTION 3 - EMBLEMS WORN ON RIBBONS OF BRITISH  
DECORATIONS AND MEDALS**

- |    |  |   |   |
|----|--|---|---|
| a. | Victoria Cross<br>George Cross   | )<br>)<br>)<br>)<br>)                     | The original award includes a miniature replica of the cross. The award of a bar is to be marked by the addition of a second miniature cross on the ribbon; an additional cross being added for each bar awarded. |
| b. | Distinguished Service Order<br>Conspicuous Gallantry Cross<br>Distinguished Service Cross<br>Military Cross<br>Distinguished Flying Cross<br>Air Force Cross<br>Distinguished Conduct Medal *<br>Military Medal *<br>Medal for Meritorious Service | )<br>)<br>)<br>)<br>)<br>)<br>)<br>)<br>) | A rosette or rosettes worn on the ribbon, when the ribbon is worn alone, indicates a second or subsequent award - except the ribbon of the South Atlantic Medal.  |
| c. | Order of the British Empire and<br>British Empire Medal *  | ))<br>)<br>)<br>)                         | A crossed oakleaf emblem worn on the ribbon of the various classes of the OBE and BEM indicates an award 'for gallantry' made between 1958 and 1974.  |
| d. | Emblems for 4th level awards are covered in Para 13.051. They are mounted on the associated War/Operational Medal, if applicable.  |   |   |

Notes:

1. These emblems do not form part of the Decoration or Medal and are not to be worn on the riband when the Decoration or Medal is worn in original or miniature, except for 4th level awards.
2. Original bars are to be worn with full size Medals and miniature bars with miniature Medals.

\* No longer awarded post 1993

## ANNEX C TO SECTION 3 - COLLAR DAYS

1. Easter Sunday.
2. Whit Sunday.
3. Ascension Day.
4. Trinity Sunday.
5. January 1st - New Years Day.
6. January 6th - The Epiphany.
7. January 25th - Conversion of St Paul.
8. February 2nd - Presentation of Christ in the Temple.
9. February 6th - The Queen's Accession.
10. March 1st - St David's Day.
11. March 17th - St Patrick's Day.
12. March 25th - Lady Day.
13. April 21st - The Queen's Birthday.
14. April 23rd - St George's Day.
15. May 29th - Restoration of the Royal Family.
16. June 2nd - The Queen's Coronation.
17. June 10th - The Duke of Edinburgh's Birthday.
18. June 24th - St John the Baptist's Day.
19. August 6th - Transfiguration.
20. September 28th - St Michael and All Angels.
21. November 1st - All Saints Day.
22. November 30th - St Andrew's Day.
23. December 25th - Christmas Day.
24. December 26th - Boxing Day.
25. December 28th - Innocent's Day.



26. Days when the Sovereign opens or prorogues Parliament.
27. By those taking part in the ceremony of introduction of a peer in the House of Lords.

## **SECTION 4 - FOREIGN ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND WAR MEDALS**

### **RULES GOVERNING THE WEARING OF FOREIGN ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS**

**13.062 Preference of Wearing Orders or Neck Decorations.** At functions organised by, or for the representative of, a foreign state the Order or neck Decoration of the state in possession of the wearer, should whenever possible be given preference over the British Order or Decoration usually worn.

**13.063 Wearing of Stars.** Stars of foreign Orders are to be worn on the right or left breast according to the regulations laid down by the monarch or head of state by whom they are conferred.

**13.064** When in foreign countries British officers are to wear their foreign stars when foreign officers wear theirs.

**13.065 Orders, Decorations and Medals Awarded Prior to Service with Crown Forces.** Orders, Decorations and Medals awarded prior to service with Crown Forces may be worn with Her Majesty The Queen's permission.

**13.066 Authority.** Authority to wear foreign or Commonwealth awards resides with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (which takes advice and recommendations from the MOD), and details of entitlement are contained in Chapter 10 of JSP 761 Honours and Awards in the Armed Forces; this includes the regulations regarding 'restricted' and 'unrestricted' permission to accept and wear foreign awards.

## **SECTION 5 - ORDER OF WEARING ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS**

### **AUTHORITY**

**13.067** The following list shows the order in which Orders, Decorations and Medals should be worn, the authority for which is vested in the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood.

### **ORDER OF WEARING**

**13.068 The Victoria Cross and The George Cross:**

- a. VC, GC

**13.069 British Orders - Notes 1 and 2:**

- a. KG, KT, GCB, OM, GCMG, GCVO, GBE, CH, KCB/DCB, KCMG/DCMG, KCVO/DCVO, KBE/DBE, CB, CMG, CVO, CBE, DSO, LVO, OBE, MVO, MBE

**13.070 British Decorations - Note 1:**

- a. CGC, RRC, DSC, MC, DFC, AFC, ARRC, Order of St John

**13.071 British Medals for Gallantry and Distinguished Service - Note 1:**

- a. [DCM, CGM, CGM(F)] - Note 3, GM [DSM, MM, DFM, AFM] - Note 3, QGM, QVRM, RVM [BEM] - Note 4

**13.072 British Operational Service Medals.**

- a. In order of date of qualification

**13.073 United Nations Medal and Medals of other recognised international organisations (eg NATO).**

- a. In order of qualification. – Note 7

**13.074 Coronation and Jubilee Medals:**

- a. In order of date of qualification

**13.075 Long Service and Efficiency Awards:**

- a. Meritorious Service Medal
- b. Accumulated Campaign Service Medal
- c. Regular Forces LS & GC Medals (Army, RN, RAF, UDR/R IRISH (Home

Service)

- d. [ERD] - Note 5. TD, RD - Notes 5 and 6
- e. RNR LS & GC Medal, RFR LS & GC Medal, RNXS Medal
- f. AE, VRSM, [UD] - Note 6. Efficiency Medal (Territorial), Northern Ireland Home Service Medal
- g. Queen's Medals for Champion Shots
- h. Cadet Forces Medal
- i. Rhodesia Medal

**13.076 Commonwealth Orders, Decorations and Medals Instituted by The Sovereign:**

- a. In order of date of qualification

**13.077 Commonwealth Orders, Decorations and Medals instituted since 1949 otherwise than by The Sovereign (including those of the States of Malaysia and the State of Brunei):**

- a. In order of date of qualification

**13.078 Foreign Orders, Decorations and Medals:**

- a. Foreign Orders )  
)
- b. Foreign Decorations ) In order of date of qualification  
)
- c. Foreign Medals )  
)

**13.079 Spare**

Notes:

1. The abbreviations listed are the authorised post-nominal letters, which are placed after recipients' names in the same order.
2. Persons subsequently appointed to a higher class of the same division (Military or Civil) of a British Order wear the badge and ribbon and use the post-nominals of the higher class (eg GBE precedes KBE, likewise KBE precedes CBE). If a holder of a lower class is promoted to a higher class in the other division, he may continue to wear the badge and ribbon of the honour first received but may only use

the post-nominals relating to the higher class.

3. No further awards made after September 1993.
4. No further awards made after New Year Honours 1993.
5. No further awards made after April 1967.
6. No further awards made after June 1992.
7. It should not be assumed that all UN and NATO etc medals are authorised to be worn by British personnel in uniform. If in doubt, advice should be sought from PS12(A).

## SECTION 6 – THE ELIZABETH CROSS

### The Elizabeth Cross

**13.080** The Elizabeth Cross and Memorial Scroll are granted to the Next of Kin of UK Armed Forces personnel who have died on operations or as a result of an act of terrorism in national recognition of their loss and sacrifice. The Elizabeth Cross is not a posthumous medal for the fallen but an emblem demonstrating tangible national recognition for Service families for their loss. The Elizabeth Cross is made of hallmarked silver and is in the form of a cross with a laurel wreath passing between the arms. The arms of the Cross bear floral symbols representing England (Rose), Scotland (Thistle), Ireland (Shamrock) and Wales (Daffodil). The centre of the Cross bears the crowned Cipher of Her Majesty The Queen. The reverse of the Cross is engraved with the name of the Service person in whose memory it is granted. The Elizabeth Cross, accompanied by a miniature version, is presented in a black leather style presentation box with the Royal Cipher on the lid and the Royal Coat of Arms on the inner silk lining.



### Wearing in Civilian Clothing

**13.081** The Elizabeth Cross is not a medal and there are therefore no formal rules for its wear on civilian clothes. It is an emblem designed for wear by both men and women on the lapel/collar of a jacket and the recipient may wear it at any time he/she deems appropriate. It is intended that the Elizabeth Cross will be worn on formal occasions such as Remembrance Sunday with the miniature being worn at less formal events, or every day if desired.

### Wearing in Uniform

**13.082** Wearing the Elizabeth Cross in uniform is entirely at the discretion of the recipient. It may be worn in formal orders of uniform when other medals are worn but the Elizabeth Cross is to be worn above the breast pocket on the right side i.e the

opposite side to all other medals. It is to be worn centred above the breast pocket button such that the base of the Cross is 3mm above the pocket seam. When a recipient has been awarded other medals that are worn on the right side (such as Royal Humane Society's medals), the medal that was awarded first is worn nearest to centre of the chest. The miniature Cross may be worn when other miniatures are worn but again it is to be worn on the right side of the uniform in the same place as those on the left. Questions about wearing the Elizabeth Cross in uniform are to be directed to MOD PS12(A) .