

	ROYAL NAVY	ROYAL MARINES	BRITISH ARMY	ROYAL AIR FORCE
★★★★★	ADMIRAL	GENERAL	GENERAL	AIR CHIEF MARSHAL
★★★★	VICE ADMIRAL	LIEUTENANT GENERAL	LIEUTENANT GENERAL	AIR MARSHAL
★★★	REAR ADMIRAL	MAJOR GENERAL	MAJOR GENERAL	AIR VICE-MARSHAL
★★	COMMODORE	BRIGADIER	BRIGADIER	AIR COMMODORE
★				
	CAPTAIN	COLONEL	COLONEL	GROUP CAPTAIN
	COMMANDER	LIEUTENANT COLONEL	LIEUTENANT COLONEL	WING COMMANDER
	LIEUTENANT COMMANDER	MAJOR	MAJOR	SQUADRON LEADER
	LIEUTENANT	CAPTAIN	CAPTAIN	FLIGHT LIEUTENANT
	SUB-LIEUTENANT	LIEUTENANT	LIEUTENANT	FLYING OFFICER
	MIDSHIPMAN	SECOND LIEUTENANT	SECOND LIEUTENANT	PILOT OFFICER
	WARRANT OFFICER 1	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1	WARRANT OFFICER
	WARRANT OFFICER 2	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 2	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 2	
	CHIEF PETTY OFFICER	COLOUR SERGEANT	STAFF/COLOUR SERGEANT	FLIGHT SERGEANT
	PETTY OFFICER	SERGEANT	SERGEANT	SERGEANT
	LEADING HAND	CORPORAL	CORPORAL	CORPORAL
		LANCE CORPORAL	LANCE CORPORAL	
	ABLE RATE	MARINE	PRIVATE	AIR SPECIALIST (CLASS 1)
				AIR SPECIALIST (CLASS 2)

UK Armed Forces Ranks

The military has a very important rank system. Think of ranks like levels of authority. Together, they make up a chain of command that helps everyone understand the different levels of authority, leadership, and responsibility found within the British Armed Forces.

We're sharing this guide to help you better understand rank structure across Defence. This gives you a general idea but doesn't cover the unique ranks that some specialised units or technical roles have, like the RAF Regiment and NATO.






























































What is |bfbs| Creative ?

BFBS Creative is an award-winning digital creative agency specialising in the armed forces, defence, and government. We are part of the global charity and media organisation, BFBS, that has been entertaining, informing, connecting, and championing the UK Armed Forces since 1943. As part of the wider BFBS family, our work for Defence clients is delivered at cost and, when working with commercial clients, we can offer more BFBS services to serving personnel for free. Our team is made up of security cleared veterans, Reservists, military spouses, and industry experts. That's why we understand the military's unique, complex, and ever-changing needs.

If you are interested in finding out more about our services, visit: <https://creative.bfbs.com/>





	ROYAL NAVY	ROYAL MARINES	BRITISH ARMY	ROYAL AIR FORCE	MOD CIVIL SERVICE GRADES
★★★★★	ADMIRAL 	GENERAL 	GENERAL 	AIR CHIEF MARSHAL 	PERMANENT SECRETARY (PUS)
★★★★	VICE ADMIRAL 	LIEUTENANT GENERAL 	LIEUTENANT GENERAL 	AIR MARSHAL 	SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT PAY BAND 3
★★★	REAR ADMIRAL 	MAJOR GENERAL 	MAJOR GENERAL 	AIR VICE-MARSHAL 	SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT PAY BAND 2
★★	COMMODORE 	BRIGADIER 	BRIGADIER 	AIR COMMODORE 	SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT PAY BAND 1
★					
Stars are allocated to the most senior ranks across Defence	CAPTAIN 	COLONEL 	COLONEL 	GROUP CAPTAIN 	BAND B1/ G6
	COMMANDER 	LIEUTENANT COLONEL 	LIEUTENANT COLONEL 	WING COMMANDER 	BAND B2/ G7
	LIEUTENANT COMMANDER 	MAJOR 	MAJOR 	SQUADRON LEADER 	BAND C1/ SEO
	LIEUTENANT 	CAPTAIN 	CAPTAIN 	FLIGHT LIEUTENANT 	BAND C2/ HEO
	SUB-LIEUTENANT 	LIEUTENANT 	LIEUTENANT 	FLYING OFFICER 	BAND D/ EO
	MIDSHIPMAN 	SECOND LIEUTENANT 	SECOND LIEUTENANT 	PILOT OFFICER 	
	WARRANT OFFICER 1 	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1 	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1 	WARRANT OFFICER 	
	WARRANT OFFICER 2 	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 2 	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 2 		
	CHIEF PETTY OFFICER 	COLOUR SERGEANT 	STAFF/COLOUR SERGEANT 	FLIGHT SERGEANT 	
	PETTY OFFICER 	SERGEANT 	SERGEANT 	SERGEANT 	BAND E1/ AO
	LEADING HAND 	CORPORAL 	CORPORAL 	CORPORAL 	(Within the MOD Civil Service, the equivalent ranks for E2 and below are not defined. Their equivalent ranks vary depending on which organisation they belong to.)
		LANCE CORPORAL 	LANCE CORPORAL 		
	ABLE RATE	MARINE	PRIVATE	AIR SPECIALIST (CLASS 1) 	
				AIR SPECIALIST (CLASS 2) 	

UK Defence Ranks

The military has a very important rank system. Think of ranks like levels of authority. Together, they make up a chain of command that helps everyone understand the different levels of authority, leadership, and responsibility found within the British Armed Forces. As Defence moves towards a ‘Whole Force Approach’, we have included the Civil Service grade structure and where they sit alongside military roles.

We're sharing this guide to help you better understand rank structure across Defence. This gives you a general idea but doesn't cover the unique ranks that some specialised units or technical roles have, like the RAF Regiment and NATO.

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