

CHAPTER 2

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

A. GENERAL:

Uniform: Neat, clean, pressed, in good condition, zipped or buttoned.

Footwear: Shined (including heels and edge of the soles) and in good condition.

Watch: Conservative. (Definition: holding to traditional expectations, attitudes & values)

Bracelet: If worn, the bracelet will be conservative (moderate, being within reasonable limits; not excessive, extreme, or drawing attention) in design, no wider than ½ inch, gold or silver in color, and will not have any inappropriate pictures or writing.

Rings: A maximum of three at any one time (includes both hands)

Earrings: Male cadets - **will not wear while in uniform.**

Female cadets - small spherical (round), conservative, diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver. Pierced or clip on earrings may be worn while in uniform. They must fit tightly without extending below the earlobe. Only one (1) earring per earlobe.

Eyeglasses and Sunglasses: If you wear glasses, they must not have any ornaments on the frames or lenses. Eyeglass lenses that are conservative, clear, slightly tinted, or have photosensitivelenses may be worn in uniform while indoors or while in military formation. When outdoors and in uniform, sunglasses and eyeglasses must have lenses and frames that are conservative. Faddish or mirrored lenses are prohibited. Sunglasses are not allowed while in a military formation. Neither eyeglasses nor sunglasses can be worn around the neck while in uniform.

Pencils and pens: Concealed (except on ABUs; see Chapter 7).

Headphones/Earpieces: Wear/use of an earpiece, any blue tooth technology or headphones, while in uniform, indoors or outdoors, is prohibited, unless specifically authorized for the execution of official duties. Exception: Headphones and earphones [iPods, MP3-type players, etc.] are authorized during travel on public transportation (i.e., bus, train or air travel.).

Necklaces: Concealed under collar or undershirt. This means if people can see it, it's not concealed.

Lipstick/Nail polish/Cosmetics:

Male cadets: **Will not wear lipstick/nail polish/cosmetics while in uniform.**

Female cadets: Single color (compliments skin tone). No decorations (i.e glitters); nails will not exceed ¼ inch; cadets will not wear shades of lipstick/nail polish that distinctly contrast with their complexion, that detract from the uniform, or that are extreme. Some examples of extreme colors include but are not limited to: purple, gold, blue, black, bright (fire-engine) red, and fluorescent colors. French Tips are allowed. Cosmetics will be conservative and in good taste.

Hair nets: Will not be worn when in uniform.

Wigs: Male cadets: **Will not wear while in uniform.**

Female cadets: Must be in conformance with the same standards required for natural hair. Must not exceed limits stated for natural hair.

B. FEMALE CADET GROOMING GUIDELINES: (See Attachments 1- 3)

Hair. No minimum hair length to a maximum bulk of 3 ½ inches from the scalp and allows proper wear of headgear. Hair will end above the bottom edge of collar and will not extend below an invisible line drawn parallel to the ground, both front to back and side to side. Bangs or sideswiped hair will not touch either eyebrow, to include an invisible line drawn across eyebrows and parallel to the ground. When in doubt, assess correct length of hair with Cadet standing in the position of attention. **Exception:** While wearing Physical Training Gear, long hair will be secured but may have loose ends and may extend below the bottom edge of the collar.

Hair will be clean, well groomed, and present a professional appearance. Hair will not contain excessive amounts of grooming aids (i.e. gel, mousse, pomade, or moisturizer), appear lopsided, touch either eyebrow, or end below an imaginary line across the forehead at the top of the eyebrows that is parallel to the ground. If applied, dyes, tints, bleaches and frostings must result in natural hair colors. Examples of natural hair colors are brown, blonde, brunette,

natural red, black, or grey. Prohibited examples (not all-inclusive) are burgundy, purple, orange, fluorescent, or neon colors.

Hair accessories (i.e. fabric scrunches, hairpins, combs, clips, headbands, elastic bands barrettes, etc.), if worn must match hair color. Black hair accessories are authorized regardless of hair color. Hair must still comply with bulk and appearance standards. Headgear must fit properly. Headbands and fabric scrunchies will not exceed one-inch in width. Ornaments are *not* authorized (i.e. ribbons, beads, jeweled pins).



Scrunchie



Hair Clips

Locs, braids, twists, micro-braids, French braids, dutch braids and cornrows are authorized. Locs are defined as portions of hair that have been intentionally or unintentionally fused together to form a loc or locs. A braid or twists is two or more portions of interwoven hair. If adding additional hair, it must be a natural-looking color, similar to the individual's hair color. It must be conservative (moderate, being within reasonable limits; not excessive or extreme) and not present a faddish appearance. Hair must not exceed bulk and length standards and must not extend below the bottom of the collar. Headgear must fit properly.

All locs, braids and twists, when worn will be of uniform dimension no wider than one inch, with natural spacing between the locs, braids, and twists and must be tightly interwoven to present a neat, professional and well-groomed appearance. When worn, multiple locs, braids, or twists shall be of uniform dimension, small in diameter (approximately ¼ inches), show no more than ¼ inch of scalp between the locs, braids, or twists and must be tightly interwoven to present a neat, professional appearance.

A braid/twist must continue to the end of the hair without design and following the contour of the head, and may be worn loose or in a secured style within hair standards previously discussed. **Exception:** Micro-braids or twists are not required to continue to the end of the hair.

Fingernails. If worn, nail polish will be a single color that does not distinctly contrast with the female Cadet's complexion, detract from the uniform, or be of extreme colors. Some examples of extreme colors included, but are not limited to purple, gold, blue, black, bright red and florescent colors. Do not apply designs to nails or apply tow-tone or multi-tone colors; however, white-tip French manicures are authorized. Fingernails must not exceed ¼ inch in length beyond the tip of the finger and must be clean and well-groomed.

Skirts. The skirt will be no shorter than the top of the kneecap and no longer than the bottom of the kneecap. The skirt will fit smoothly, hang naturally over the hips with a slight flare, and must not be excessively tight.

Earrings. Female cadets may wear small (not exceeding 6 mm in diameter), conservative (moderate, being within reasonable limits; not excessive or extreme), round or square white diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver earrings as a set with any uniform combination. If member has multiple holes, only one set of earrings are authorized to be worn in uniform and will be worn in the lower earlobes. Earrings will match and fit tightly without extending below the earlobe unless the piece extending is the connecting band on clip earrings.

Undergarments. Appropriate undergarments are required to be worn with all uniform combinations. Wear bra and underpants with all uniforms. Wear of the white V-neck style or athletic tank top undershirt when wearing opened collar service uniforms is authorized. Undershirt will be tucked into slacks or skirt. Undershirts will not have pockets.

C. MALE CADET GROOMING GUIDELINES: (See Attachment 4)

Hair. Hair will be clean, well groomed, and present a professional appearance. Will not contain excessive amounts of grooming aids (greasy creams, oils or sprays.), appear lopsided, touch the eyebrow, or end below an imaginary line across the forehead at the top of the eyebrows that is parallel to the ground. If applied, dyes, tints, bleaches, and frostings must result in natural hair colors. Examples of natural hair colors are brown, blonde, brunette, natural red, black, or grey. Prohibited examples (not all-inclusive) are burgundy, purple, orange, fluorescent, or neon colors.

Hair will have a tapered appearance on both sides and the back of the head, both with and without headgear. A tapered appearance is one that when viewed from any angle outlines the member's hair so that it conforms to the shape of the head, curving inward to the natural termination point without eccentric directional flow, twists or spiking. A block-cut is permitted with tapered appearance. Hair will not exceed 2 inches in bulk, regardless of length and ¼ inch natural termination point; allowing only the closely cut or shaved hair on the back of the neck to touch the collar. Hair will not touch the ears or protrude under the front band of headgear. Cleanly shave heads, military high-and-tight, or flattop cuts are authorized. Prohibited examples (not all-inclusive) are Mohawk, mullet, cornrows, dreadlocks or etched design. Cadets may have one (cut, clipped or shaved) front to back, straight-line part not slanted or curved, on either side of their head, above the temple. Part will not exceed 4 inches length or ¼ inch width. Men are not authorized hair extensions. **See Attachment 4.**

Sideburns. If worn, sideburns will be straight and even width (not flared), and will not extend below the bottom of the orifice of the ear opening. Sideburns will end in a clean-shaven horizontal line. **See Attachment 4.**

Mustaches. Male cadets may have mustaches; however, they will be conservative

(moderate, being within reasonable limits; not excessive or extreme) and will not extend downward beyond the lip line of the upper lip or extend sideways beyond a vertical line drawn upward from both corners of the mouth. **See Attachment 4.**

Beards. Beards are not authorized unless for medical reasons, when authorized by the SASI on the advice of a medical official. Cadets will keep all facial hair trimmed, not to exceed ¼ inch in length. Individuals granted a shaving waiver will not shave or trim any facial hair in such a manner as to give a sculptured appearance.

D. TATTOOS, BODY PIERCING AND EARRING WEAR:

Tattoos or Brands. Whether you are in or out of uniform, tattoos or brands anywhere on the body are not allowed if they are obscene or if they advocate sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious discrimination. Tattoos or brands that might harm good order and discipline or bring discredit upon the Air Force are also barred, whether you are in or out of uniform. The SASI may exercise discretion if a new cadet arrives with a tattoo that may not be in full compliance with the above guidance.

Body piercing: Cadets in uniform, are not allowed to attach or display objects, articles, jewelry, or ornamentation to or through the ear (other than authorized in earrings guidance), nose, tongue, or any exposed body part (including anything that might be visible through the uniform). Cadets may not cover any of these articles with make-up, Band-Aids, or wearing clear post pins to hide body piercings.

