

THE NEW WOODLAND NAVY WORKING UNIFORM

Fielding began this fall for the Navy's new woodland cammies, a camouflage pattern designed by Naval Special Warfare Command to replace the legacy woodland utilities for 71,000 sailors. The uniform was designed to go outside the wire, with plenty of space for gear, including shoulder and calf pockets, and larger belt loops to fit a rigger's belt and hold up a holster. Comfort and fit were also top priorities. Woodland cammies can be worn in the U.S., and they are also likely to turn up in U.S. Central Command because the desert digital cammies are mostly limited to SEALs and sailors who directly support them; only 10,000 sailors are expected to receive the latest desert cammies.

WHAT YOU'LL BE ISSUED

The woodland and desert Navy working uniforms are considered organizational clothing, so they are issued by commands. All name tags, service tags and insignia, and the cost to sew them on, will be paid for by the Navy. Service members eligible to wear the woodland or desert NWUs will get:

- Three blouses.
- Three trousers.
- Two eight-point covers.
- One Gore-Tex parka.
- One fleece liner that may be worn without the parka.
- One helmet cover.
- One sun hat.
- One brown fleece watch cap.
- One brown belt.

Optional items

- Smooth black boots.
- Green or brown socks.
- Earplugs.
- Gold or silver earrings for women.
- Black leather gloves.

These optional items are not available for sale through uniform stores and must be ordered by a sailor's command:

- Adjustable brown rigger's belt.
- Hard hat.
- Matching cold-weather pants.



1. PROTECT YOUR NECK

The blouse collar is normally worn open, but it can be closed for tactical operations. The style, referred to as a Mandarin collar, was designed for tactical operations, such as when wearing body armor, said Cmdr. Paul McComb, an assistant program manager at Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

2. HIDING THE VELCRO

The thigh and shoulder pockets have a Velcro patch with a flap that can be folded over to block the Velcro when buttons are being used.



3. MORE STORAGE

Canted thigh pockets are easier to access in vehicles or when the wearer is sitting, officials said. The pockets also have canted bellows designed to expand to hold more and drainage holes in the bottom.



4. MOVABLE BUTTONS

The trouser fly and thigh pockets have ribbon-button closures, which allow a button to move back and forth along a ribbon, instead of being sewn into the material at a fixed point. McComb said the closure allows the wearer to move more easily, and "it's a stronger anchor point than having a regular button sewn in."



GORE-TEX PARKA

The parka, which can be worn with or without the fleece liner, can be cinched at the waist with a drawstring found inside a pocket.



SUN HAT

The "boonie" hat may not be worn off base in the continental U.S., Hawaii or Guam.



5. EASY ACCESS

Shoulder and chest pockets are the same size, which cuts manufacturing costs, officials said. They feature both buttons and Velcro. "The Velcro allows for a quick open if you're in a tactical situation," McComb said. Both pockets have small holes at the bottom to drain water.

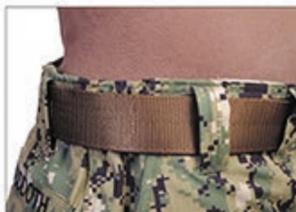
6. RANK, FRONT AND CENTER

The Navy considered rank insignia on the collar, but found during wear tests in 2010 that when the collar is worn up, the insignia rubbed against the wearer's neck.



7. ELASTICIZED WAIST

The elastic waistband was chosen because it provides a better fit than a drawstring.



8. BELT LOOPS

The belt loops are large enough to accommodate a rigger's belt.



PARKA HOOD

The parka's hood must be concealed in its pouch when it is not being worn.



FLEECE OUTERWEAR

The tan fleece liner for the parka may be worn without the heavy coat; when worn alone, E-4 and above must wear rank insignia on the fleece's center tab.



9. LEGACY BOOTS

The tan, no-shine boots were previously issued with the legacy tricolor camouflage.

Uniforms modeled by:
Chief Logistics Specialist David Suddoth,
Gunner's Mate 1st Class Benjamin Doudna,
Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Nicole McCardie
and Intelligence Specialist 2nd Class Mario Raez



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