



# Department of Utah Veterans of Foreign Wars Uniform Guide

As of 1-July-2023

There are a lot of options for creativity in our uniforms. However, there are something's that need to be standardized in order to present a uniform and professional appearance. The purchase of uniform items other than the Member Cap is NOT required. All items are purchased and maintained at the member's expense. Standards set by the Auxiliary, Honor Guard, M.O.C. and VFW Riders supersede this guide during their events and functions. Product Code (PC) included, when available, for easy locating at [vfwstore.org](http://vfwstore.org).

## 1. Member Cap

- a. The Member Cap is the most visible sign of membership in the VFW. All active members should have their Post Cover in clean and serviceable condition. Member Caps are required for Department, District and Post meetings as well as other special events as noted by the Department/District/Post Commander. Member Caps are appropriate for every ceremony and official function.

### i. Cap Design

1. The standard Member Cap (PC: M6151), color Shade 51 Green, is available in the standard or Ft. Knox design. Females have the option of the Ladies Cap design (PC: M6252). See Picture #1 bellow
  - a. All Member Caps will have "VFW & Post Number" on the front right
  - b. The VFW Cross of Malta on the right side
  - c. "Utah" written on the left side.
  - d. Optional left side stitching may include
    - i. Post Charter City
    - ii. Officer position with dates of service in those positions.
    - iii. Life member and Legacy Life Member patches (PC: 08255) and embroidery is acceptable for members who hold that status, placed just past the curve on the right side.
    - iv. Continuous member bars and patches are also acceptable.
  - e. All Member Caps will have the gold braid unless the member is an officer at the district, department or national level.
    - i. National Braid – Silver
    - ii. Department Braid – Red
    - iii. District Braid – Green
    - iv. Post Braid – Gold

2. The Suntan Member caps (PC: M6275) is not an approved members cap for the Department of Utah
- ii. **Cap Fitting**
    1. The member cap is worn with the front vertical crease of the cap centered on the forehead in a straight line with the nose, with the front lower portion of the cap approximately 1 inch above the eyebrows (approximately the width of the first two fingers). The cap is placed on the head in such a manner that the front and rear vertical creases and the top edge of the crown form unbroken lines in silhouette, and so the ridge of the cap is parallel to the ground while standing at attention. see Picture #2 bellow.
    2. Female Cap designs generally run larger than the standard design.
  - iii. **Pins & Patches**
    1. Members are invited to place pins related to their military service, the VFW, religious or other forms of pride.
      - a. Although there are no official rules, the following items are placed on the left "Utah" side,
        - i. Commanders Pins
        - ii. Traditionally military items.
        - iii. Religious (Other than Military Cross)
        - iv. Other
      - b. VFW related pins are placed on the "Cross" side. Department and Past Department Pins DO NOT qualify as VFW related Pins. VFW related pins could be Post #, Chaplain Cross, or a current officer position.
      - c. Items should not be distracting or offensive in nature.
  - iv. **Other Types of Member Caps**
    1. Life and Legacy Life members may purchase the appropriate cap design (PC: M6300) following the above mentioned parameters. Members of a post that has earned All-State and/or All-American status may purchase the appropriate cap following the above mentioned parameters. These caps can be used instead of the Standard Member Cap.

## 2. Department of Utah Uniforms

- a. The uniform is optional for post members, but may be required for certain officers during National, Department or District conferences or indoor meetings/events. The Member Cap will always be part of the uniform. Post members have the option of purchasing any of the uniform options as described below.
  - i. **Department Commander Shirt**
    1. The Department Commanders shirt is authorized to be worn at all VFW events, unless otherwise stated. The Department Commander Shirt can be purchased through the Department Quartermaster. See Picture #2 bellow
      - a. **Chest - Left** - VFW Department of Utah 2023-2024 Commanders Logo
      - b. **Chest - Right** - Can be blank or members can request for their name and position to be embroidered at the time of order

ii. **District or Post Shirts**

1. District or Post shirt are authorized to be worn at all VFW events, unless otherwise stated. ALL District or Post shirts will need to go through the VFWSTORE.ORG for approvals to use VFW Logos.

iii. **VFW Uniform Shirt Design**

1. The uniform shirt is short sleeved, button front, white with epaulets. Available ready to go at VFWStore.org (pictured). Male (PC: 768600 or 07023) and female (PC: 768800) shirts are available. The shirt is worn, pressed and tucked in the pants/skirt. A white t-shirt is worn underneath. See Picture 3 bellow

a. The shirt has the following specifications:

- i. **Sleeves** - Patched of the American Flag on the left and POW/MIA on the right. The POW/MIA is optional.
- ii. **Chest - Left** - VFW Malta Cross embroidered above the pocket. Option to include post information, name and/or member status (i.e. Life).
- iii. **Chest - Right** - Usually blank, member can include an embroidered patch from prior service (i.e. Navy sleeve rockers or regimental crest)
- iv. **Pocket Flap - Left** - Usually blank, member can include former service ribbons or medals. If wearing medals, miniatures are recommended.
- v. **Pocket Flap - Right** - Usually blank, members can include the VFW Name Tag or former service qualification badges, again miniatures are recommended.

- b. Collar Devices - "VFW" brass (PC: 08130) is on the right. "Post #" brass is on the left. Both will be diagonal on the collar. See Picture 4 bellow

i. Per VFW Podium Addition 2023.

1. "All VFW military formations and procedures shall conform with the current Infantry Drill Regulations, United States Army."

iv. **Trousers/Skirt**

1. Black or Grey Dress Trousers.
2. Females have the option of wearing a black or grey skirt no shorter than 1 inch above or 2 inches below the crease of the back of the knee (not recommended for parades).
3. Females may also wear an appropriate full length dress of their choosing.
4. Jeans or Shorts are not authorized to be worn at Department Meeting. District and Post commanders can authorize the wear of Jeans or shorts at their meetings.

v. **Jackets and Coats**

1. During any VFW business you may wear the following Jackets or coats
  - a. Department of Utah Commanders Coat
  - b. Black Jacket or Coat
  - c. Dark Colored Raincoat
  - d. Any Coat or Jacket on VFWSTORE.ORG

### 3. VFW Name Tag

- a. Name tags are an optional item for post members. If interested, the layout is as follows: The standard for post members is the gold tag. Line 1 is for your name. Line 2 reads "POST #". Line 3 reads "Post City". Line 4 reads "UTAH". Members also have the option of including their campaign medals, presented as mini ribbons, included on their name tag. The backing (i.e. clip-on, magnetic...) is up to the member.
  - a. National Name Tags – White
  - b. Department – Red
  - c. District – Green
  - d. Post – Gold

### 4. Social Uniform

- a. At the National level and throughout the VFW, there is an unofficial social uniform. This unofficial "uniform" is intended for events and meetings where business attire is recommended/appropriate. Along with the Member Cap, the following components make this "uniform". See Picture #5 Bellow
  - i. **Blazer**
    1. A navy blue blazer. Optionally, members can include the VFW Bullion Emblem (PC:08228) patch or the VFW Blazer Patch (PC: 08262) on the left chest pocket area.
    2. Life and Legacy Life members have the option to purchase the Maroon Life Member Blazer (PC: 07307).
  - ii. **Shirt**
    1. A long sleeve white dress shirt, blouse for females, that can be buttoned to the collar.
  - iii. **Neckwear**
    1. The red with navy stripe VFW Tie (PC: 08422) is the standard tie.
    2. Members may optionally wear black
    3. Females can either not wear a tie or wear the Women VFW Tie (PC: 08423) or any tie listed above
  - iv. **Trousers/Skirt**
    1. Grey Dress Trousers
    2. Females have the option of wearing a grey skirt no shorter than 1 inch above or 2 inches below the crease of the back of the knee.
  - v. **Footwear**
    1. Black dress shoes.
    2. Black socks.
    3. Females may wear black pumps with a heel no greater than 3 inches. If wearing a skirt, females are recommended to wear skin tone stockings.

vi. **Accessories**

1. On the left lapel of the blazer
  - a. Members may place their VFW Cross of Malta membership pin
  - b. Continuous membership pin.
  - c. Life and Life Legacy Members pin
  - d. Officers and past officers may place the pin that indicates the office currently holding/held
  - e. Optional items may include
    - i. service related/patriotic pins,
    - ii. tie bars/ chains
    - iii. awards.
    - iv. On the left breast pocket, members may include their VFW Name Tag.

## 5. District or Post Meetings

- a. The Member cap will be the only authorized headgear worn at District or Post meetings.
- b. It is suggested that members wear the Department Commanders Shirt or Post Shirt but Regular civilian attire that is not offensive and appropriate for a social setting is authorized.
- c. On occasions, such as during awards ceremonies, the District or Post Commander may designate a uniform for a particular meeting ahead of time.

## 6. Formal Events

- a. Male members
  - i. Are invited to wear their military service dress uniform
  - ii. Suit and tie
  - iii. Tuxedo
- b. Female members
  - i. Are invited to wear their military service dress uniform
  - ii. business suit
  - iii. Dress or gown.
- c. As an option, in civilian wear, members are encouraged to wear miniature medals and badges earned during their time in the military.
- d. Member Caps are optional for formal events.

## 7. Military Order of the Cooties, VFW Riders & Honor Guard

- a. Each group within Department have different requirement in terms of patches, covers, and uniforms. Please refer to the individual group for further guidance on purchase, wear and appearance of the group specific items. While participating in an event/meeting as part of these groups, their standards supersede the guidance in this document.

## 8. Suggested Item

- a. The VFW Store offers a large amount of items available to its members. Most post membership have found the VFW Cap Cover (PC: 08120), to be an ideal way to protect the cap between meetings/events from dust, stains and/or damage. See Picture #6 bellow

## 9. VFW Auxiliary

- a. The VFW Auxiliary will follow all National VFW Auxiliary Uniform Guidance. For questions please see your Department Auxiliary President.
- b. The VFW Auxiliary may wear the Department of Utah Commanders Shirt whenever authorized by the Auxiliary Department of Utah President.

## 10. Sources & References

- a. National By-Laws, 2022
- b. VFWStore.org

## 11. Supersedes

- a. This document supersedes any past Department, District or Post Uniform Guidance. If any part of this guide does not meet the National Uniform Guidance, that section will revert to National Uniform Guidance.



HEATH SILCOX  
DEPARTMENT OF UTAH  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
COMMANDER



**Ft. Knox Style**



**Regular Style**

**Picture #1 (Member Cap Styles)**



**Picture #2 (Proper Wear of the Member Cap)**



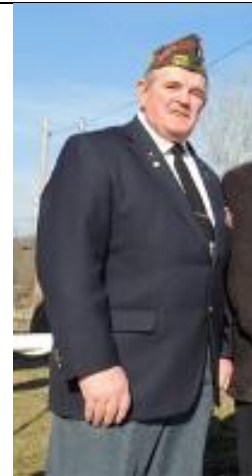
**Picture #3 (Department Commander Shirt)**



**Picture #4 (Uniform Shirt)**



**Picture #5**



**Picture #6**



**Picture #7**

