

## Chapter 8 - Uniforms, Insignia and Awards

### 8-6. Personal Appearance

a. JROTC is a uniformed organization, which is judged, in part, by how a Cadet wears a prescribed uniform and maintains their personal appearance. Therefore, a neat and well-groomed appearance by all Cadets is fundamental to JROTC and contributes to building the pride, esprit, good order, and discipline essential to an effective unit.

b. **Hair Styles:** Many hairstyles are acceptable, as long as they are neat and conservative. Hair will be neatly groomed. Hair that is clipped closely or shaved to the scalp is authorized. The length and bulk of hair will not be excessive or present a ragged or extreme appearance. If dyes, tints, or bleaches are used, colors used must be natural to human hair and not present an extreme appearance. Hairstyles will not interfere with proper wearing of military headgear. The headgear when worn in uniform will not appear bulging or distorted, and without excessive gaps between the headgear and the head. There is no minimum hair length for Cadets, and Cadets are permitted to have natural highlight. Hair that falls over the eyebrows or ears will be pulled back. Hair holding ornaments (barrettes, pins, clips, headbands), if used, must be transparent or similar in color to hair, and will be inconspicuously placed. Headbands should not be wider than 1 ½ inches. Cadets are permitted to wear a ponytail, two braids, or one singular braid in all uniforms. Cadets are authorized to wear multiple neat-in-appearance hairstyles at once. Colors that detract from a professional uniform appearance are prohibited. It is the responsibility of instructors to use good judgment in determining if applied colors are acceptable, based upon the overall effect on Cadets' appearance.

c. **Facial hair:** Sideburns will be neatly trimmed. Sideburns will not extend below the lowest part of the exterior ear opening. The face will be clean-shaven, except for permitted mustaches.

d. **Fingernails:** All Cadets will keep fingernails clean and neatly trimmed. Female Cadets are permitted to wear any color fingernail polish as long as they match in type and style. Do not extend more than ½ inch for acrylic nails from the tip of the finger.

e. **Hygiene and Tattoos:** Cadets are expected to maintain good hygiene while in uniform. Tattoos are authorized; however, tattoos or brands that are extremist, indecent, sexist, or racist are prohibited, visible with any uniformed activity, as they are prejudicial to good order and discipline within the unit, the school, and the community. If a Cadet has a tattoo on the face, it will not prohibit the Cadet from participating in JROTC. Instructors should advise that facial tattoos could prohibit the Cadet from joining the Armed Forces.

f. **Lipstick:** Female Cadets may wear non-extreme shades of lipstick.