Uniform Policy

The cadet uniform is university property and issued to you for use as a cadet student. If that status is terminated, by resignation or dismissal, you will be required to return the uniforms, cleaned and pressed, to the Tailor Shop, and you will owe the entire annual uniform fee, even if you only spend one day in the Corps.

Make sure you read and understand the Uniform Policy you will sign as an assignment in the New Cadet/ROTC Paperwork on Canvas.

New Cadet Uniform Issue 2021-2022

Initial Issue

1 Blue Cover
1 White Cover
1 All-Weather Coat
1 Black Windbreaker
2 White Shirts
2 White CNT Trousers
1 Multi-Cam Cover
2 Multi-Cam Shirts
2 Multi-Cam Trousers
1 PolyPro Shirt
1 Sand T-Shirt
1 pair Combat Boots
1 pair Low Quarters, Leather
1 Maroon LS Shirt
1 Sweatpants
1 Sweatshirt
2 Black PT Shorts
2 Gray T-Shirts
3 Sand VTCC T-Shirts
1 Bathrobe
1 Gray Blanket
1 Blouse
2 Gray Short-Sleeve Shirts (Highty-Tighties only)
1 Accessory Kit

Accessory Kit

2 Blouse Collar Insignia
1 Brass Waist Plate
1 Brass Breast Plate
1 Brass Cap Device
1 Raincoat
2 Windstraps
1 Black Tie
1pair White Cotton Gloves
1 Tan Web Belt with Buckle
2 Corps Crests
2 White Collars
1 Black Hydration Pack
1 pair Cross Belts
3 White Web Belts
2 Nametags
1 Laundry Bag
1 Reflective Belt
1 Black Watch Cap
2 pair Boot Blousers

Second Issue

1 Black Parka
1 Black Belt Buckle
1 pair Black Leather Gloves, Dress
1 pair Black PT Gloves
2 White Shirts
2 Gray Long-Sleeve Shirts
1 White CNT Paletot and Trouser
1 Dress Uniform Brass
1 pair Shoulder Boards and Crests
2 pair Shirt Epaulet Rank
1 Overcoat
1 White Blouse with Tab (women)
1 White Skirt (women)
1 Gray Skirt (women, optional)
1 pair Black Pumps (women)
1 Gold Cummerbund (women)
New Cadet Packing List

Find details about the items on the packing list on our Pinterest boards. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are sold in the Cadet Box from the VT Bookstore.

**Clothing**

- 1 Pair Dress shoes, brown (i.e. oxfords, Sperry boat shoes)
- 1 Each Belt, brown
- 1 Each Belt, black
- 2 Pair Khaki trousers, tan (Docker-style. No cargo pockets. Tan khaki.)
- 6 Pair Dress socks, black
- 12 Pair Boot socks, black, olive drab, or sand, mid-calf or higher
- 12 Pair Athletic socks, white, no logos or color showing, cover ankle (between half calf and ankle)
- 12 Pair Underwear (at least 3 must be white or nude colored)
- 3 Pair Underwear, black (*Air Force ROTC only*)
- 12 Each T-shirts, white, V-neck
- 3 Each T-shirts, any color (for personal physical fitness)
- 3 Pair Shorts (for personal physical fitness)
- 1 Pair Shoes, athletic/running
- 2 Sets Sleepwear/pajamas (personal preference)
- 1 Each Wrist watch, professional in style (conservative black band)
- 1 to 2 Sets civilian clothing for travel on pass/leave (that’s all you will need until spring semester)
- 1 Each Swimsuit
- 2 Each Rain ponchos, disposable, clear

**Personal Hygiene & Well-Being**

- 1 Each *12-pack disposable face masks (Needed to ride Blacksburg Transit or visit Schiffert Health Center)*
- 2 Each *2-pack cloth face masks, black (Only black face masks are allowed in uniform)*
- 1 Each Digital thermometer
- 1 Each *Hand sanitizer*
- 1 Box Tissues
- 1 Each Toothbrush
- 1 Each Toothpaste
- 1 Each Floss
- 1 Bottle Shampoo/conditioner (anti-dandruff, if desired, for no lint on your uniform)
- 1 Each Body wash
2-4 Each  Hand soap  
1 Pair   Shower shoes (required)  
1 Each   Deodorant  
1 Each   Lotion  
1 Each   Sunblock (SPF 30 or higher, newly shaved heads sunburn easily)  
1 Each   Travel-sized sunblock (SPF 30 or higher)  
1 Each   Lip balm  
1 Each   Brush or comb  

Emergency Self-Care Bag

1 Copy   Home doctor and dentist contact information  
1 Copy   Insurance card  
1 Each   Prescription and dose of EpiPen (if applicable)  
1 Supply   Contacts, case, solution, and extra glasses (if applicable)  
1 Supply   4-5 months of long-term medications, with prescription  
1 Supply   Other personal medications, with prescription (if applicable)  
1 Each   *Portable First Aid Kit, basic  
2 Package   *Molefoam/Moleskin Padding (Dr. Scholl’s is popular)  
1 Tube   Antibiotic ointment/cream  
1 Box   Bandages/gauze pads  
1 Bottle   Antacid  
1 Bottle   Benadryl (if you suffer from seasonal allergies)  
1 Bottle   Acetaminophen, ibuprofen or naproxensodium (your preference)  
1 Each   Bug bite remedy  
1 Each   Antiseptic  
1 Bottle   Cough syrup and/or lozenges  
1 Package   Cold medicine  

Room

1 Each   Pillow, white  
12 Each   Hangers, heavy-duty (metal or wooden)  
2 Sets   White twin sheets (fitted, flat, and a pillowcase), must fit (tautly) a 38”W x 80”L x 7.5” deep mattress  
2 Sets   White towels (bath, hand, and washcloth)  
1 Each   Blanket, comforter, or sleeping bag (any color/type)  
2 Each   Surge protector (a longer cord is better, 6’ to 9’)
1 Each Small, foot-pedal desk-side wastebasket, with lid and bags (no more than 13 gallons)

2 Each Large plastic storage bins/containers (lightweight, any color, stored on top of wardrobes)
   Space on top of cabinet: 32” across, 22.25” deep, cabinet top to ceiling: 45.5” for Upper Quad rooms

1 Each Desk lamp (not halogen)

1-2 Sets Plates, bowls, utensils, mugs (microwaveable)

1 Each Plain alarm clock (no music capability: no radio/iPhone/iPad/other connections)

1 Each Small water pitcher or water bottle (optional)

1 Each Air freshener (optional)

1 Each Air purifier (small, optional)

**Lower Quad Housing Only**

1 Each Box fan (popular brand is Lasko 20”, neutral color, required for Lower Quad housing)

1 Each Desk hutch, optional (purchased from collegesavers.com or handmade)

1 Each Tension rod and solid-color, flame-retardant curtain to use as a closet door (optional)

**Professional Materials**

1 Each Computer (see compreq.vt.edu for specifications by major)

1 Each Printer, Printer ink (It is not recommended to share with roommate)

1 Each Black backpack, small or no visible logo (see Corps Pinterest board for examples)

1-2 Reams Printer paper

1-2 Each USB drive

1 Set Software (Purchased through the university: Undergraduate Software Bundle and other college specific requirements)

1 Set General school supplies (notebooks, binders, folders, pens, pencils, highlighters, calculator, stapler, scissors, etc)

1 Each *5-inch pointed scissors

1 Box Pens, retractable, black (Required for all cadets)

1 Each 3x3 Post-it-notes, yellow

1 Each 3x5 index cards, ruled (Required for all cadets)

**Cleaning Supplies**

1 Each Sponge

1-4 Rolls Paper Towels

1 Each Disinfectant Spray (i.e. Lysol brand)

1-2 Each Disinfectant Wipes (i.e. Clorox brand)

1 Each Old toothbrush (for shoes)
1 Set Dusting tools (Pledge, rags, Swiffer, etc.)
1 Each White laundry bag (one is issued, can also bring a second one if desired)
1 Bottle High efficiency (HE) laundry detergent
1 Bottle Laundry stain remover (OxiClean, Shout, etc.)
1 Each Iron
1 Each Ironing board, full size (may coordinate with roommates for only one per room, if desired)
1 Bottle Ironing starch (i.e. Faultless Heavy Starch)
1 Bottle Multi-surface cleaner
1 Bottle Dishwashing soap
1 Bottle Window/glass cleaner
1 Each Broom (may also opt for an additional Swiffer WetJet + pads)

All Cadets

A majority of these items are sold together in a “Cadet Box” through the VT Bookstore (marked by an *). It is optional to purchase the box from the VT Bookstore, or you can buy the items individually. But make sure you have all of these items.

1 Can Shoe polish, black (Kiwi brand)
1 Kit *Shoe shine kit (brush, shine cloth, etc)
1 Bottle Edge dressing (optional, Kiwi Brand is popular)
1 Set *Manicure Set (tweezers, nail clipper, etc., also used for uniform maintenance)
1 Each *Door Stop (sturdy, wood or hard rubber)
2 Each *Dry erase marker, fine, black
1 Each *Dry erase eraser (optional)
1 Bottle Dry erase cleaning spray (optional)
1 Each *Sewing kit (small)
1 Each *Portable stain remover (i.e. Tide To Go pen)
1 Each *Mini or regular size lint roller
1 Each *China marker/grease pen
1 Bottle *Metal Polish (Brasso and Mothers Mag & Aluminum are popular brands)
1 Each *Bic mini lighter
1 Each *Umbrella, black
1 Each *Memo (fit in pocket) notebook, black, waterproof
1 Bag *Cotton balls (non-synthetic)
1 Pack *Safety pins
1 Each *Marker, permanent, black
1 Set *Shirt stays (for examples and where to buy, see Corps Pinterest boards)
Women

1 Kit  Hair supplies for bun and ponytail, matching hair color (ties, pins, barrettes, spray, gel, etc.)
7 Each  Sports bra, white
2 Each  Nylons, skin-tone (will need for paletot)
1 Supply  Feminine hygiene products
1 Pair  1/8-inch gold, silver, or pearl ball earrings (optional)
1 Set  Professional business attire (optional for religious services; required for Citizen-Leader Track)
3 Each  Compression shorts, black (optional)
1 Each  Plain, black purse (optional)
1 Set  Cosmetics, skin-tone, conservative (optional)

Men

1 Each  Razor, electric or disposable (package of 10 or more for razors or replacement heads)
1 Bottle  Shaving cream
1 Each  Professional business attire (optional for religious services; required for Citizen-Leader Track)
3 Each  Compression shorts, black (optional)

Share With Roommates

1 Each  Refrigerator (no more than 4.5cu.ft., 120 Volts, 2 amps)
1 Each  Microwave (less than 1000 watts)
Items Not Authorized

The decor of a cadet's room is limited within the privileges of each class. First-year cadets are not allowed to move furniture or add significant items to the room. Specific items that first-year cadets are NOT authorized include, but are not limited to:

- A desk chair (other than the chair provided by the university)
- Towels any other color than white
- Posters
- Floor lamps
- A personal bathrobe (other than the robe issued by the Tailor Shop)
- Rugs
- Sheets any other color than white
- Alarm clocks that play music
- Curtains
- Extension cords
- Televisions
- Shoe Racks (that hang outside of cabinet)
- Hammocks

Footwear Guide

You will be issued one (1) pair of Coyote Brown Combat Boots and one (1) pair Black Leather Low Quarters by the Tailor Shop. If you decide to drop the Corps of Cadets, understand that you will be billed by the Virginia Tech Accounts Receivable Department for the boots and shoes. The amount will be approximately $70 for the boots and approximately $100 for the shoes. Virginia sales tax will be added.

Important notes:

1. Once boots and shoes have been worn, it is not feasible to swap sizes. Therefore, it is important that the sizes you have selected fit correctly. Replacements will be at the cost listed above.

2. Proper fit and break-in are required to prevent blisters.

You will sign a form stating this when you are issued the footwear.

Uniform Shoes & Boots

The boots you will be issued are lightweight jungle style boots. This style will help reduce foot problems from the start. The low quarters you will be issued are black leather dress shoes. If you follow the suggestions below, you will reduce your chances of major problems.

Find the style of socks that you are most comfortable wearing. These should provide cushioning between your foot and the boot while keeping your foot snug inside the boot. The heel is a common problem area for blisters, and you should ensure that you have a proper fit here. Boot socks can be black or olive drab. Dress socks must be black.

As a precaution, bring moleskin/molefoam. This will help relieve some of the discomforts of blisters in the event they occur. You will receive instructions on care and maintenance during New Cadet Week. When wearing the shoes, do not drag the heel and wear it down as you walk.
Packing Lists FAQs

For more examples and links to where to purchase items on the packing list, check out the [Corps Pinterest Boards](https://www.corpspinterestboards.com).

**Clothing**

- **Dress Shoes, Brown** (with laces)
  - Worn with “Hokie Bag,” the maroon polo is issued.
  - Common brands for oxfords are L.L. Bean, Eastland, Bostonian, Nordstroms, etc.

- **Belt, Brown**
- **Belt, Black**
- **Khaki Trousers, Tan** (must have belt loops)
  - Common brands for the khaki trousers: Dockers, GAP, Land’s End, J Crew, Department stores
  - Tan/Sand khaki (no green khaki).

- **Dress Socks, Black** (mid-calf)
- **Boot Socks, Black** (mid-calf to knee)
  - Worn regularly with cadet uniforms. Brand does not matter. Hiking, work, and box stores, online retailers all carry boot socks.

- **Athletic Socks, White**
  - Worn with Corps/ROTC physical fitness uniforms, color on the toe or heel is fine, as long as the visible part of the sock above the shoe is all white and free from logos. No calf or no-show socks. Goal is ankle socks.
Underwear, at least 3 must be white or nude colored. White, beige, or nude color underwear are worn under the issued uniform white dress pants. Underwear can be of any style (boxers, briefs, etc.) Bands can be any color. Females do not need male underwear.

Shoes, athletic/running. Must fit well to reduce blisters, no restrictions on color.

Wristwatch, professional with black band. After New Cadet Week, a wristwatch is a must for all cadets to be on time. It can have an athletic, metal, or leather band, but the band must be black and the watch conservative. Apple Watches or other smart watches are allowed.

Shower Shoes. Shower are used by many cadets in a hallway, so shower shoes are a must.

Personal Hygiene & Well-Being

Cloth face masks. Plain, no artwork. Must be washable.
Room

- **Linens**
  - Towels and sheets must be white with no pattern or distinctive markings. Cadets prefer the snug fit to make it easier to prepare their beds for inspections. Cadets don’t prefer lumpy/egg crate-style mattress toppers because it is difficult to pass inspection with them.

- **Blanket, comforter, or sleeping bag**
  - A VTCC blanket will be issued to cadets, but many cadets avoid having to re-make their beds every day by sleeping on top of their made bed with a comforter or sleeping bag. Additional bedding will have to be stored away during the day, so be cautious of extra bulk.

- **Surge Protector with 6 foot to 9 foot cord**
  - VT does not allow for extension cords, so the longer the cord the better on the surge protector.

- **Small, desk-side wastebasket, with lid and bags**
  - Trash cans must be at or under 13 gallons. A lid and a foot pedal are for better hygiene.

- **Large, plastic storage containers (stored on top of the wardrobes)**
  - Most cadets have two bins stored on top of their wardrobes, but keep the container lightweight. If they are see-through, they can be inspected. Opaque is preferred. Additional medium containers will be useful for inside the wardrobes.

- **Desk Lamp**
  - A must. University policies prohibit halogen bulb lamps and high intensity lamps in residence hall rooms.

- **Plain Alarm Clock (no radio/CD/audio connections)**
  - First-year cadets do not initially have music privileges.
- **Cellphone**
  Because of the 2-Factor Authentication to access university applications, all students will find their cellphone to be indispensable. While all cadets are highly encouraged to have a cellphone for the school year and the phone is required during check-in, they are not allowed for use during New Cadet Week. They will be sealed in envelopes and stored during New Cadet Week and can be accessed if a new cadet needs it to register for classes, etc. Phones will be returned to all new cadets after the end of the New Cadet Week.

- **Black Backpack**
  No big or white logos. Very limited color accents (small imprints on zippers, for example are OK). Common retailers to check would be L.L. Bean, eBags, Zappos.com, Amazon.com, etc.

- **Desk hutch**
  Purchased online from collegesavers.com or make your own. Dimensions of solid hutches are displayed with a depth of 38 inches.
Cleaning

- Iron
- Ironing Board, full size
- Ironing Starch

Cadets do a lot of ironing to keep their uniforms clean and inspection ready without having to pay for dry cleaning. Check to see that color from the ironing board cover will not transfer to white clothing.

- Edge Dressing (optional)

A black, glossy, lacquer-type protectant for the visible edges of soles of low quarters (dress shoes). It can be useful for formal inspections.

All Cadets

A majority of these items are sold together in a “Cadet Box” through the VT Bookstore. It is optional to purchase the box from the VT Bookstore or you can buy the items individually. These pictures are examples and not necessarily what will be in the final Cadet Box.

- Shoe Polish, black
  Shoe polish is critical in shining a cadet’s leather low quarters. Parade gloss or regular, your preference.

- Dry Erase Marker, fine, black
- Dry Erase Eraser
  First-year cadets earn the privilege of using dry erase on their door cards after the first six weeks.

- Sewing Kit
  For small uniform repairs, like a lost button. The Tailor Shop will take care of any alterations.

- China Marker/Grease Pencil
  First-year cadets are required to use these to write on their plastic door card to identify their location when they are not in their rooms.
Brass Polish

Some of the metal pieces of a cadet’s uniform are true brass and need to be cleaned with a metal cleaner. Mother’s Mag & Aluminum can be found in car-detailing areas.

Shirt Stays

Shirt stays are elastic straps with clasps that are designed to hook shirt tails to your socks, under pants, to keep dress shirts neatly tucked-in.

Hat Plastic

These stiff sheets of translucent plastic are used by cadets for everything from door cards to keeping shoulder ranks flat. It is exclusively available from the University Bookstore; it can be purchased individually.

Dr. Scholl’s Molefoam/Moleskin

Cadets get blisters. It is a fact of life for physically active people on their feet in dress shoes and boots. Moleskin allows blistered skin to heal with a soft cushion, preventing rubbing and pressure.

Storage Box (cardboard)

This is the box that all of these items come in if you opt for the VT Bookstore Cadet Box. It is convenient additional storage.

White Masking Tape (1.88 inch to 2 inch and 1 inch)

Required. Used to tape your door card to your door in a very specific way.
Share with Roommate(s)

- Refrigerator
  (≤4.5 cu. ft., 120 V, 2A)
  First-year cadets are allowed to have mini-fridges and microwaves, but are limited to one of each per room. They can be purchased from stores or rented.

- Microwave
  (<1000 watts)
  Cadets may also have coffee pots or Kuerig machines.