

Class Rings

Since the 1911-1912 school session, when four classes (1911-1914) designed their class rings, each Virginia Tech class has designed a ring that is both distinctive and unique. Throughout the years, the Virginia Tech class ring remains one of the most beloved traditions at the university.

Each year, the sophomore class selects a Ring Committee that is responsible for designing its class ring collection. Each collection includes certain elements: the screaming eagle, American flag, campus buildings, and an interlocking chain around the bezel. The screaming eagle evolved from a pair of twin eagles used on the first Virginia Tech ring, symbolizing the twin virtues of strength and freedom. The American flag and campus buildings serve to recognize both the heritage of our country and Virginia Tech. The chain represents the strength of many united as one. From there, the Ring Committee designs a class ring representing the unique characteristics of its respective class.

Today, Virginia Tech is one of only a few colleges and universities that redesigns its ring collection each year.

The Virginia Tech Class Rings website describes the ring tradition at <http://www.alumni.vt.edu/classrings/>.

Class rings can be ordered from October until December. Many students order rings after the Ring Premiere, when the design of the class ring is revealed. The dates for ordering rings can be found at <http://www.alumni.vt.edu/classrings/saledates.html>.

With an array of ring versions — from traditional and signet to fashion styles for both men and women — all rings are offered in various metals and have several options. In addition, payment plans are available so that there is a ring that fits most family budgets.

An alloy version of the ring, available to cadets, is referred to as the Battle Ring. It is used for everyday wear, saving the other ring for special occasions. Cadets who order a regular ring, may order a Battle Ring at a reduced cost.

The Class of 2018 Ring information link is at <http://www.class.alumni.vt.edu/2018/>.

Part of the tradition of the university and the Corps of Cadets is that the rings are not delivered to the owner until the night of the Ring Dance. A first-year cadet, who is paired with a junior cadet mentor early in the second semester, will make arrangements to pick up the ring and will be present at the Ring Dance to deliver the ring to its owner.

Cadets who are going to graduate in five years can choose which year's ring they wish to have. Many choose the ring associated with the fourth year so they are like the ones of their buds — however, this is a personal choice. The only requirement to order a ring is

that students must have completed 60 or more academic credit hours.