

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
FIELD MEDICAL TRAINING BATTALION
Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0042

FMST 101

Rank Structure of the USMC

TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE

1. Without the aid of references, describe common terms, sayings, and quotations used in the Marine Corps without omitting key components. (HSS-MCCS-2025)

ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Without the aid of reference and in writing, **identify the different ranks within the Navy and Marine Corps** within 80% accuracy, in accordance with the Marine Corps Common Skills Handbook. (HSS-MCCS-2025a)

2. Without the aid of reference and in writing, **identify the job descriptions within the Navy and Marine Corps ranks** within 80% accuracy, in accordance with the Marine Corps Common Skills Handbook. (HSS-MCCS-2025b)

1. **ENLISTED RANKS**

Categorized into three groups:

- Junior Enlisted
- Non-Commissioned Officers
- Staff Non-Commissioned Officers

Junior Enlisted

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-1	Private NONE	Hospitalman Recruit NONE

- Roles:
1. Entry level Marine/Sailor
 2. Platoon member responsible to their fireteam leader
 3. An HR may be assigned as a Platoon Corpsman or General Duty Corpsman within an Aid Station.

E-2	Private First Class 	Hospitalman Apprentice 
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- Roles:
1. Entry level Marine/Sailor
 2. Platoon member responsible to their fireteam leader
 3. An HA may be assigned as a Platoon Corpsman or General Duty Corpsman within an Aid Station.

E-3	Lance Corporal 	Hospitalman 
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- Roles:
1. Entry level or experienced Marine/Sailor
 2. Platoon member responsible to their fireteam leader

3. Experienced Lance Corporals can assume the duties as a fireteam leader
4. An HN may be assigned as a Platoon Corpsman or General Duty Corpsman within an Aid Station.
5. Experienced HNs may be assigned as the Senior Line Corpsman.

Non-Commissioned Officer / NCO

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-4	Corporal 	Hospital Corpsman Third Class 

- Roles:
1. Experienced Marine assigned as fireteam leader or squad leader
 2. An HM3 may be assigned as a Platoon Corpsman or hold the Senior Line Corpsman position.
 3. Within an Aid Station, an HM3 may be assigned a collateral responsibility such as Physicals PO, Supply PO, Preventive Medicine Representative (PMR), etc.

E-5	Sergeant 	Hospital Corpsman Second Class 
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- Roles:
1. Experienced Marine assigned as squad leader, but can assume duties as Platoon Sergeant
 2. An HM2 at the company level is assigned as the Senior Line Corpsman
 3. Within an aid station, an HM2 will have added responsibilities ranging from Administration PO to Assistant LPO

Staff Non-Commissioned Officer / SNCO

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-6	Staff Sergeant 	Hospital Corpsman First Class 

- Roles:
1. Senior Marine assigned as Platoon Sergeant, but can assume duties as Platoon Commander
 2. An HM1 is assigned to the Aid Station with administrative responsibilities
 3. Leading Petty Officers are tasked with the day-to-day operations of the Aid Station

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-7	Gunnery Sergeant 	Chief Hospital Corpsman 

- Roles:
1. Senior Marine assigned as Company Gunnery Sergeant; can assume role as Company 1stSgt
 2. The Chief of an Aid Station is responsible for all Sailors within a unit, as well as daily functions of the Aid Station
 3. The Chief reports directly to the SgtMaj and the Battalion Commander

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-8	Master Sergeant (Technical Expert)  First Sergeant (Administrative) 	Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman 

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-9	Master Gunnery Sergeant (Technical Expert) 	Master Chief Hospital Corpsman 

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-9	Sergeant Major (Administrative) 	Command Master Chief 

PAYGRADE	MARINE CORPS	NAVY
E-9	Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps 	Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) 

2. OFFICER RANKS

Marine Corps Officers wear gold or silver rank insignias on the shoulder lapel of their coats or overcoats. They also wear small replicas of the insignia on their shirt collar. The color and shape of the insignia varies with their rank.

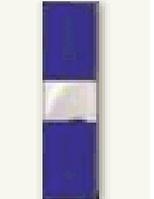
Officer ranks within the Marine Corps are categorized into three (3) groups

- Company Grade: W1 to W5 and O-1 to O-3
- Field Grade: O-4 to O-6
- General Grade: O-7 to O-10

Company Grade

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
W-1	Background is GOLD and markings are SCARLET. 	There are no W-1 Warrant Officers in the Navy

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
W-2	Background is GOLD and markings are SCARLET <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 5px auto;"/> 	Background is GOLD and markings are BLUE 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
W-3	Background is SILVER and markings are SCARLET <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 5px auto;"/> 	Background is SILVER and markings are BLUE 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
W-4	Background is SILVER and markings are SCARLET <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 5px auto;"/> 	Background is SILVER and markings are BLUE 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
W-5	Background is SILVER and markings are SCARLET	Background is SILVER and markings are BLUE
		

NOTE: W-1 in the Marine Corps is known as Warrant Officer. W-2 through W-5 are called Chief Warrant Officers.

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-1 (Bar is Gold)	2nd Lieutenant	Ensign
		

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-2 (Bar is Silver)	1st Lieutenant	Lieutenant Junior Grade
		

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-3 (Bars are Silver)	Captain	Lieutenant
		

Field Grade

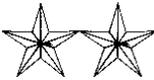
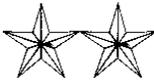
PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-4 (Leaf is Gold)	Major 	Lieutenant Commander 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-5 (Leaf is Silver)	Lieutenant Colonel 	Commander 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-6 (Eagle is Silver)	Colonel 	Captain 

General Grade Officers

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-7	Brigadier General 	Rear Admiral (lower half) 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-8	Major General 	Rear Admiral (upper half) 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-9	Lieutenant General 	Vice Admiral 

PAYGRADE	MARINE	NAVY
O-10	General 	Admiral 

Senior Officers

Each branch of the Armed Forces has a senior officer grade of their respective branches of the service:

- Marines: Commandant of the Marine Corps
- Navy: Chief of Naval Operations
- Army: Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army
- Air Force: Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force

REFERENCE

Marine Corps Common Skills Handbook

Rank Structure Review

Match the Marine Corps rank with the proper name. (Not every name will be used)



Captain

Private



Lance Corporal

First Sergeant



Sergeant

Major General



Lieutenant General



Colonel