



The Maritime Academy Of Toledo

Rank And Promotion Handbook for Cadet Ensign

Rank of Ensign		Nautical/Maritime Terms	Nautical/Maritime Definition	Maritime Academy Terminology
1.	Ensign	COMING ABOARD AND RENDERING HONORS	The naval tradition of coming aboard ship where the ensign (U.S. Flag) is saluted at the top of the gangway and then the officer of the day is saluted with a request for permission to come aboard. Unlike when passing as a group through the honor guard, all salute (if covered and in uniform) the ensign because ranks are temporarily broken to "cross the gangway." The unit reforms on the Bridge (or Quarterdeck) to be introduced by the senior officer. The individual does not salute until s/he is called from ranks to be recognized. If not in uniform, a person may salute the ensign with hand over heart or by pausing, facing the ensign, and coming to attention. The group salute is the formal rendering of honors from a group in formation.	Entering The Building At The Beginning Of Each Day, Saluting The Flag And The Officer Of The Day
2.	Ensign	COMMANDER	person who commands, especially a commanding officer. A commissioned rank in the U.S. Navy or Coast Guard that is above lieutenant commander and below captain. The chief commissioned officer of a military unit regardless of his or her rank.	Commander is the rank given to the Principal
3.	Ensign	COMPLEMENT	The number of officers and crew employed upon a vessel for its safe navigation and operation.	Total School Population Including Staff And Students
4.	Ensign	COURSE	The direction in which a boat is steered.	Course Of Study; Curriculum Design
5.	Ensign	CREW	The personnel engaged on board ship, excluding the master and officers and the passengers on passenger ships.	Cadets Of All Ranks(Students)
6.	Ensign	CREW LIST	List prepared by the master of a ship showing the full names, nationality, passport or discharge book number, rank and age of every officer and crew member engaged on board that ship and is one of the essential ship's documents presented to the customs and immigration authorities on arrival at a new port.	Staff And Student Record Files Including Enrollment, Medical, Discipline, Assessment, Portfolio, And Rank And Discipline Records
7.	Ensign	CUDDY	A small shelter cabin in a boat.	Private Staff /Faculty Offices
8.	Ensign	DEAD AHEAD	Directly ahead.	Directly Ahead
9.	Ensign	DEAD ASTERN	Directly aft.	Directly Behind

10.	Ensign	DECK LOG	Also called Captain's Log. A full nautical record of a ship's voyage, written up at the end of each watch by the deck officer on watch. The principal entries are: courses steered; distance run; compass variations, sea and weather conditions; ship's position, principal headlands passed; names of lookouts, and any unusual position, principal headlands passed; names of lookouts, and any unusual happenings such as fire, collision, and the like.	Deck Log = Daily Activity Records students, the faculty, administrators, and the school. Student Deck Log (SDL): Student Record Book and ID. Teacher Deck Log (TDL): Teacher Record Book, Attendance, Inventory, Correspondence, And Any Other Communications School Log: School records such as staff and student files, attendance, Inventory, correspondence, and any other communications Captains Log: Annual School Report Card
11.	Ensign	DECK OFFICER.	As distinguished from engineer officer, refers to all officers who assist the master in navigating the vessel when at sea, and supervise the handling of cargo when in port	Administrative Staff , Teachers, And Assistant Teachers
12.	Ensign	DECKHAND	Seaman who works on the deck of a ship and remains in the wheelhouse attending to the orders of the duty officers during navigation and maneuvering.	Cadets Of All Ranks Who Assist Commissioned Officers (Students Who Assist Staff)
13.	Ensign	DEEP SIX	A fathom, the unit of measurement in most maritime countries for the depth of the sea, is six feet. Sailors used the term to refer to throwing something overboard and it has come to mean getting rid of something. 1) Originally, the call of the leadsman signifying that the water is more than 6 fathoms deep, but less than seven. 2) Euphemism for throwing something overboard. Also seen as 'splash', 'float check', 'float test'. 3) To deliberately throw something overboard in deep water to be lost for good. It comes from the fact that deep water is measured in "fathoms", or measurements of six feet. The depth of the average grave is also six feet	Discarding Paper, Materials, And/OR Broken Equipment

14.	Ensign	DEVIL TO PAY	Originally, this expression described one of the unpleasant tasks aboard a wooden ship. The devil was the ship's longest seam in the hull. Caulking was done with pay or pitch (a kind of tar). The task of 'paying the devil' (caulking the longest seam) by squatting in the bilges was one of the worst and most difficult jobs onboard. The term has come to mean a difficult, seemingly impossible task. 'The devil to pay and no hot pitch'. Landlubbers, having no seafaring knowledge, assumed it referred to satan and gave the term a moral interpretation. 1) Today the expression "devil to pay" is used primarily to describe having an unpleasant result from some action that has been taken, as in someone has done something they shouldn't have and, as a result, "there will be the devil to pay." Originally, this expression described one of the unpleasant tasks aboard a wooden ship. The "devil" was the wooden ship's longest seam in the hull. Caulking was done with "pay" or pitch (a kind of tar). The task of "paying the devil" (caulking the longest seam) by squatting in the bilges was despised by every seaman. 2) Originally, the saying was "The devil to pay and no pitch hot." In the old wooden-hulled ships, 'devil' seams joined the external hull timbers with the deck planking; there are also references to a devil seam back aft, where the hull timbers join at the rudder post. Seams were caulked, or sealed, by jamming oakum fiber into the gaps, then smearing the seam with melted pitch or tar. If one of these seams worked open in rough weather, a great deal of water could be shipped before it was repaired. This term is probably the origin of the term 'hell to pay.'	Unpleasant Consequences Of An Action
15.	Ensign	DIP THE ENSIGN	A Merchant vessel used to be required to heave and clew up all her canvass when approached by a warship on the high seas, so as to indicate her willingness to be searched. Delays resulted, and eventually, dipping the flag was authorized as a time-saving substitute. Today U. S. Naval ships return the salutes dip for dip, except those rendered by ships under flags not recognized by the U. S.	Cadets (Students) Agreeing To Be Searched (Drug Testing)
16.	Ensign	DITTY BAG, DITTY BOG, DITTY BOX	originally called ditto bag because it contained at least two of everything - two needles, two spools of thread, two buttons, etc. With the passing of years, the 'ditto' was dropped in favor of ditty and remains so today. Before WW I, the Navy issued ditty boxes made of wood and styled after foot lockers. These carried the personal gear and some clothes of the sailor. Today the ditty bag is still issued to recruits and contains a sewing kit, toiletry articles and personal items such as writing paper and pens.	Book Bags, Backpacks, Totes, And Brief Cases
17.	Ensign	DOCK	A protected water area in which vessels are moored. The term is often used to denote a pier or a wharf.	The School Campus (Surrounding Property Including Parking Areas)
18.	Ensign	DOLDRUMS OR IN THE DOLDRUMS	Between the trade winds of the northern and southern hemisphere lies an area of calm winds, close to the equator, called the doldrums. Since sailing vessels relied upon the wind, a trip through the doldrums was often long, hot and boring.	Feeling Hot, Bored, Or Tired

19.	Ensign	DOWN A PEG OR TWO	During the days of sail, flags had their heights regulated by a series of pegs at the base of the mast where their hoisting ropes were secured. An admiral had the right to fly his own personal flag, which was placed at the highest point of the mast to signify his rank and prestige to all within view. However, if an admiral of higher rank appeared on the scene, then his flag had to be taken down by a peg or two, according to his lower seniority. It became a very popular means to describe how someone's pride or ego could be dealt with.	Referencing Action To Be Taken To Dispel A Student's Disrespectful, Or Inappropriate Behaviors
20.	Ensign	DOWN THE HATCH	A drinking expression that seems to have its origins in sea freight, where cargoes are lowered into the hatch. First used by seamen, it has only been traced back to the turn of the century. A toast that seems to have its origins in sea freight, where cargoes are lowered into the hatch. First used by seamen, it is thought to date from the 1930s and has been attributed to author P.G. Wodehouse	Taking A Drink
21.	Ensign	DOWN THE SCUPPERS	A 'scupper' was an opening cut through the waterway and bulwarks of a ship so that water falling on deck could wash through and overboard. Careless sailors who dropped their pipes, coins, or other small but valuable objects were very apt to lose them for good right before their eyes. This saying soon became applied to no hopeful chance or an opportunity lost.	No Hopeful Chance Or A Lost Opportunity
22.	Ensign	DRESS SHIP	When a ship is dressed, the national ensign is flown from the flagstaff and usually from each masthead. When a ship is full-dressed, in addition to the ensigns, a "rainbow" of signal flags is displayed from bow to stern over the mastheads, or as nearly so as the construction of the ships permits. Ships not under way are dressed from 0800 to sunset; ships under way do not dress until they come to anchor during that period. Commissioned ships are "full-dressed" on Washington's Birthday and Independence Day and "dressed" on other national holidays. USS CONSTITUTION fires a salvo during ceremonies in Boston Harbor. "Old Ironsides" is the oldest ship in commissioned service.	Raise The Us Flag And On Occasion Raise School And Class Flags
23.	Ensign	DRY DOCK	An enclosed basin into which a ship is taken for underwater cleaning and repairing. It is fitted with watertight entrance gates which when closed permit the dock to be pumped dry. Sometimes has two or more compartments separated by watertight doors. Dry docks are also referred to as Graving Docks.	The School Campus
24.	Ensign	DUFFLE	A name given to a Sailor's personal effects. Also spelled duffel, it referred to his principal clothing as well as to the seabag in which he carried and stowed it. The term comes from the Flemish town of Duffel near Antwerp, and denotes a rough woolen cloth made there.	Students' Personal Books, Belongings, And Clothing

25.	Ensign	DUNGAREES	<p>The modern Sailor's work clothes. The term is not modern, however, but dates to the 18th century and comes from the Hindi word dungri, for a type of Indian cotton cloth. 1) Webster defines dungaree as "a coarse kind of fabric worn by the poorer class of people and also used for tents and sail." We find it hard to picture our favorite pair of dungarees flying from the mast of a sailing ship, but in those days Sailors often made both their working clothes and hammocks out of discarded sail cloth. The cloth used then wasn't as well woven nor was it dyed blue, but it served the purpose. Dungarees worn by Sailors of the Continental Navy were cut directly from old sails and remained tan in color just as they been when filled with wind. After battles, it was the practice in both the American and British Navies for Captains to report more sail lost in battle than actually was the case so the crew would have cloth to mend their hammocks and make new clothes. Since the cloth was called dungaree, clothes made from the fabric borrowed the name. 2) The modern Sailor's work clothes. The term is not modern, however, but dates to the 18th century and comes from the Hindi word dungri, for a type of Indian cotton cloth. 3) 1901 regulations authorized the first use of denim jumpers and trousers, and the 1913 regulations originally permitted the dungaree outfit to be used by both officers and enlisted with the hat of the day. 4) The word dungarees (it is usually, though not always, found in the plural) is one of the relatively few mainstream English words to have come from Hindi, one of the major languages of India. The source word in Hindi is dungri, and refers to a type of coarse cloth. In English, dungaree is usually used to refer specifically to blue denim cloth, and in plural to refer to clothes, especially trousers, made of such material. Webster defines dungaree as "a coarse kind of fabric worn by the poorer class of people and also used for tents and sail." We find it hard to picture our favorite pair of dungarees flying from the mast of a sailing ship, but in those days Sailors often made both their working clothes and hammocks out of discarded sail cloth. The cloth used then wasn't as well woven nor was it dyed blue, but it served the purpose. Dungarees worn by Sailors of the Continental Navy were cut directly from old sails and remained tan in color just as they been when filled with wind. After battles, it was the practice in both the American and British Navies for Captains to report more sail lost in battle than actually was the case so the crew would have cloth to mend their hammocks and make new clothes. Since the cloth was called dungaree, clothes made from the fabric borrowed the name.</p>	School Uniform
26.	Ensign	ENSIGN	A commissioned rank in the U.S. Navy or Coast Guard that is below lieutenant junior grade.	Commissioned Student Rank and Staff Rank
27.	Ensign	ETA	Estimated time of arrival	Estimated Time Of Arrival
28.	Ensign	ETD	Estimated time of departure	Estimated Time Of Departure
29.	Ensign	EVEN KEELED OR KEELED	A vessel that floats upright without list is said to be on an even keel and this term has come to mean calm and steady. A keel is like the backbone of the vessel, the lowest	Balanced Or Out Of Balance

		OVER	and principal centerline structural member running fore and aft. Keeled over (upside down) was a sailor's term for death.	
30.	Ensign	FALL FOUL OF, FOUL UP	Foul is an often used nautical term generally meaning entangled or impeded. An anchor tangled in line or cable is said to be a foul anchor. A foul berth is caused by another vessel anchoring too close wherein the risk of collision exists. A foul bottom offers poor holding for anchors. A screw up!	Entangled Or Hindered
31.	Ensign	FATHOM	Although a fathom is now a nautical unit of length equal to six feet, it was once defined by an act of Parliament as "the length of a man's arms around the object of his affections." The word derives from the Old English Faethm, which means "embracing arms." FATHOM - A nautical measure equal to six feet, used to measure the depth of water at sea. The word was also used to describe taking the measure or "to fathom" something. Today when one is trying to figure something out, they are trying to fathom it or get to the bottom of it. Fathom was originally a land measuring term derived from the Anglo-Saxon word "fætm" meaning literally the embracing arms, or to embrace. In those days, most measurements were based on average sizes of parts of the body, such as the hand or foot, or were derived from average length between two points on the body. A fathom is the average distance from middle-fingertip to middle-fingertip of the outstretched arms of a six-foot tall man. Even today in our nuclear Navy, Sailors can be seen "guesstimating" the length of line by using the Anglo-Saxon fingertip method; crude but still reliable. 1) Although a fathom is now a nautical unit of length equal to six feet, it was once defined by an act of Parliament as "the length of a man's arms around the object of his affections." The word derives from the Old English Faethm, which means "embracing arms." 2) Fathom was originally a land measuring term derived from the Anglo-Saxon word "fætm" meaning literally the embracing arms, or to embrace. In those days, most measurements were based on average sizes of parts of the body, such as the hand or foot, or were derived from average length between two points on the body. A fathom is the average distance from middle-fingertip to middle-fingertip of the outstretched arms of a six-foot tall man. Even today in our nuclear Navy, Sailors can be seen "guesstimating" the length of line by using the Anglo-Saxon fingertip method; crude but still reliable. 3) Saint Paul relates in the New Testament that soundings were taken after a gale, and the ship was found to be in twenty fathoms of water. The Greek word orgina, which means to stretch or reach out with the arms. A sailor stretches out both arms and measures from finger tip to finger tip - an approximate fathom.	Unit Of Length Equal To Six Feet Or Guesstimating A Response
32.	Ensign	FIREMAN	An unlicensed member of the engine room staff whose duties consist in standing watch in the boiler room and insuring the oil burning equipment is working properly.	Person Responsible For Monthly Fire Drills And For Checking All Fire Safety Equipment And Procedures
33.	Ensign	FIRST OFFICER OR CHIEF MATE	The officer who is ranked immediately below the Captain is designated the First Officer, or "Chief Mate" (also Executive Officer or First Lieutenant), and is responsible for implementing the orders of the Captain as well as conferring	Commander or Principal

			with the Captain on matters concerning the ship. This "second in command" is typically responsible (along with the senior enlisted petty officer) for maintaining minor discipline on the ship.	
34.	Ensign	FITS THE BILL	A Bill of Lading was signed by the ship's master acknowledging receipt of specified goods and the promise to deliver them to their destination in the same condition. Upon delivery, the goods were checked against the bill to see if all was in order. If so, they fit the bill.	Accounting For Shipment Items Line By Line
35.	Ensign	FIVE-BY-FIVE	A radio communications expression that means 'loud and clear'. One of the fives represents the S units of reception strength. The other five is a rating of the signal clarity. Five by five is a good, clear signal. The radio use of this expression goes back to the 1950s: "All right, testing, one-two-three-four. . . 'Five by five, Mr. Holloran!" (Hunter, Blackboard Jungle, 1954). There's a more metaphorical meaning that wasn't recorded until the 1980s: "I hope everything's all right.' 'Yeah, everything is five by five'" (Eilert, Self & Country, 1983). That also seems to be the meaning used by Ferro, the drop ship captain in the movie Aliens, who says, "We're in the pipe, five by five" (1986). This use is primarily military.	A Response That Means "I Hear You"
36.	Ensign	FIXTURE	An agreement	An Agreement
37.	Ensign	FLAGS	Flags were the only means of communication between ships at sea. They provide information about the ship, the seaman, and the officers on board. There are many complications and variations but the main rule to remember is the "right rank" rule. The ships rank corresponds to the "official" burgee flown at the bow (power only) or masthead (sail or power). Sailboats may also fly the boat's "official" burgee on a Starboard hoist. "Official" in this case means the organization the ship represents. It is usually your home The flags flown to Starboard represent the offices of all aboard corresponding to your "official" organization flag. Flags flown to Port are, in general, any other burgees or office flags of the owners or guests aboard the boat. Group offices or burgie flags together.	The School Flag, Class Flags, And Workstation Flags Semifore Flags: Mounted around the Maritiner's Hall and in and around the building to label areas.
38.	Ensign	FLAKE, FLAKE OUT	In order to keep the anchor chain of a ship in good condition, the chain would be laid out up and down the deck(flaked) in order to locate and- replace any worn or weak links The term is still in use, as the captain will often instruct the crew to flake out the anchor line in preparation for anchoring. The anchor line is looped on deck in such a way that it does not become fouled (tangled) when the anchor is dropped. This term has come to refer to someone who is a weak link.	A Person who is a Weak Link In The School, either on a study or project team or in school event/team.
39.	Ensign	FLARE	The outward curve of a vessel's sides near the bow. A distress signal.	Any Signal For Help
40.	Ensign	FLOGGING THE CLOCK	Killing time or simply doing tasks in a slow and leisurely fashion. Originally derived from "Flogging the Glass", a practice from the early days of sail when time on deck was marked by an hour-glass. Young midshipmen entrusted with turning the glass over to mark the passing of an hour would tap on the side to make the sand fall through faster	Killing Time, Working Slowly Or Leisurely