

Marching Uniform Instructions

- I. **Arrival** - Be early enough to allow for checking your uniform out and dressing **before** the call time. Call time means you are prepared to play, dressed in uniform with instrument ready!!!
- A. **What to wear under uniform**
 - 1. Band T-Shirt
 - 2. Light weight shorts - thin, long, black athletic shorts
 - B. **Wear, bring, or check out with your uniform:**
 - 1. Long Black socks (do not store with the uniforms or shoes)
 - 2. Black marching shoes
 - 3. Appropriate gloves and wristbands for your instrument
 - C. **Hair**-Students with long hair **MUST** wear it up in a ponytail, bun, French braids, corn rows, etc. All hair must fit under the hat. **Absolutely NO HAIR ON SHOULDERS.**

II. **Uniform Check-Out and Check-In**

- A. **Uniform Number** - Your uniform will be filed on the racks by the coat number. It will be helpful if you can memorize this number and use it when requesting your uniform. A list will be posted with all uniform numbers to assist you.
- B. **Missing Items** -If you don't have your shoes, gloves, wristbands, or socks, **TELL THE UNIFORM HELPERS.** We can lend you the missing item(s) for the day/event, or you can purchase a new item(s). **DON'T GO WITHOUT AN ITEM.**
- C. **Garment Bag** - Hang them from the locker in the band room instead of throwing them on the floor. There is a loop at the top so they will stay with the hanger.
- D. **Uniform Check-in** -When you are ready to check-in your uniform, properly hang your uniform, re-box your hat (upside down), re-box shoes if checking back in, and bring all to the table by the uniform room. You may store your Gauntlet, gloves and wristbands in the garment bag back zipper pouch. **TAKE YOUR SOCKS HOME TO WASH.** Form 2 lines. Be courteous. **NO RUSHING OR PUSHING!** Don't leave until you are given the OK. **Return any borrowed items.**

You are responsible for hanging up your pants and coat properly before checking them back in. The parents checking in your uniform will look to see if they are hung up properly. **If they are not, you will be required to re-hang them until you get it right. You will be held accountable for all issued items!!!**

III. **Parts of the Uniform (Preparation for Performance)**

- A. **Pants**
 - 1. Zipper in front
 - 2. Adjust straps (so that pant seams are straight and not resting on shoes)
- B. **Coat**
 - 1. Ask a partner to help you if need be with the snaps and zipper
- C. **Gloves**
 - 1. Should be worn during parading and performing, when not performing they may be placed inside the hat.
- D. **Hat (Shako)**
 - 1. Worn level, not tilted back

2. Chin strap (under chin, unless drumline)
3. Don't set them down on the brims (place upside down on a clean surface)
4. Keep fingers off of brim and fabric as much as possible.
5. When in stands, place upside down and place gloves and gauntlets in hat

E. Plumes

1. Plumes will be put in your hat (shako) prior to a performance and collected immediately following. **Do not remove your own or anyone else's plume!**

F. Gauntlets

1. Pair - one black one burgundy. Match to the same colored sleeve.
2. Will be in the zippered back pouch of your garment bag.
3. **MUST** turn in **YOUR** pair at the end of the marching season.
4. Wear black terrycloth wristbands underneath gauntlets.

G. Shoes and Socks

1. You **MUST** wear the long black socks and marching shoes issued to you.
2. You **MUST** report either wearing them, or bring them to change into. You may elect to check your shoes in and out with your uniform.
3. **The socks are to be laundered and kept at home.** (Sweaty socks can lead To athlete's foot)

Your section/squad leaders will hold inspections prior to performances. If you do not have the proper accessories (gloves, wristbands, socks and shoes) **you may not be allowed to march** in that performance and your course grade **will** be affected. **COME PREPARED!**

Each uniform is worth about \$500.00. **TAKE CARE OF THEM!!!** Do not lay them on the floor or the ground. Do not spill food/drink on them...and **NO GUM CHEWING!!!**

- Important general information:
 - Do not wear your jacket when eating
 - Do not take your straps on your pants down
 - Do not hide mistakes or problems
 - When taking off jacket, turn it inside out and gently place in on the bleachers with the hat on top of it.
 - Please make every effort to sit on clean surfaces (no parking lots)
 - No Makeup when wearing the uniform
 - No big earrings
 - No Sparkle Spray or Perfumes on the uniform (wearing deodorant would be good though)
 - These need to last 10 years and they are made of a thinner product for less weight and heat, so extra care needs to be taken, you are responsible for the care and condition of your uniform.

Please communicate any issue you are having with your uniform, so that we can take care of the problem before the next performance. It is very difficult to fix problems 5 minutes before call time or performance.