



Home



Uniforms



USN
Uniforms:
WWII



Rating Badges (grouped by branch)



Seaman Branch



Artificer Branch



Engine Room Force



Aviation Branch



Commissary Branch



Special Branch



Messman Branch



Specialist Branch

Seaman Branch

Boatswain's Mate



Chief Boatswain's
Mate

Chief Boatswain's Mate (CBM): 1st Grade
Boatswain's Mate First Class (BM1c): 2nd Grade
Boatswain's Mate Second Class (BM2c): 3rd Grade

Handled and repaired lines, chains, cables, and canvas. Operated cranes, davits and other lifting gear. Operated ship's boats. Foremen for deck maintenance.

There was no boatswain's mate third class, that position being taken by the rate of coxswain.

A left-arm rating badge was worn by boatswain's mates in Seabee units, where they were in charge of cranes and lifting gear.

Coxswain



Coxswain (Cox): 4th Grade

Coxswain was in effect the third class rate of boatswain's mate, and had similar duties. Promotion would be to BM2c.

Coxswain

Fire Controlman



Chief Fire Controlman (CFC): 1st Grade
 Fire Controlman First Class (FC1c): 2nd Grade
 Fire Controlman Second Class (FC2c): 3rd Grade
 Fire Controlman 3rd Class (FC3c): 4th Grade

Inspected, maintained and repaired fire control instruments. Operated range finders and optical fire control equipment. Repaired electrical firing circuits. Manned fire control stations in action.

Fire Controlman
2nd Class

Fire controlmen 1st, 2nd and 3rd class were divided into FC(M) (maintenance) and FC(R) (repair).

Gunner's Mate



Chief Gunner's Mate (CGM): 1st Grade
 Gunner's Mate First Class (GM1c): 2nd Grade
 Gunner's Mate Second Class (GM2c): 3rd Grade
 Gunner's Mate Third Class (GM3c): 4th Grade

Took charge of guns and gun crews. Assembled and repaired ships' guns and small arms. Handled and stowed ammunition. Handled mines and depth charges before the authorization of mineman rating.

Gunner's Mate 1st
Class

There was a left-arm rating badge for Seabee gunners' mates, who handled blasting and demolition explosives.

Mineman



Chief Mineman (CMN): 1st Grade
 Mineman First Class (MN1c): 2nd Grade
 Mineman Second Class (MN2c): 3rd Grade
 Mineman Third Class (MN3c): 4th Grade

Authorized February 1944.

Assembled, stowed, moved and deployed mines and depth charges.

Mineman 3rd
Class

Quartermaster



Chief Quartermaster (CQM): 1st Grade
 Quartermaster First Class (QM1c): 2nd Grade
 Quartermaster Second Class (QM2c): 3rd Grade
 Quartermaster Third Class (QM3c): 4th Grade

Steered vessels. Stood watches on the bridge. Took soundings and bearings. Prepared and corrected navigation charts. Took navigational readings and sightings. Sent and received visual signals.

Quartermaster 2nd
Class

Signalman



Chief Signalman (CSM): 1st Grade
 Signalman First Class (SM1c): 2nd Grade
 Signalman Second Class (SM2c): 3rd Grade
 Signalman Third Class (SM3c): 4th Grade

Sent and received signals by flag, semaphore, and blinker light. Stood watch on the bridge. Identified flags of other vessels. Operated searchlights.

Signalman 1st
Class

Torpedoman, Torpedoman's Mate



Chief Torpedoman's Mate (CTM): 1st Grade
 Torpedoman's Mate First Class (TM1c): 2nd Grade
 Torpedoman's Mate Second Class (TM2c): 3rd Grade
 Torpedoman's Mate Third Class (TM3c): 4th Grade

Title changed to torpedoman's mate with the establishment of torpedoman as a warrant rank in August 1942.

Assembled, maintained and fired torpedoes. Handled warhead explosives. Adjusted torpedo guidance mechanisms.

Chief
Torpedoman's
Mate

Torpedoman's Mate Aviation (TMV) was a rating that specialized in aerial torpedoes and associated equipment. They were part of the aviation branch and wore a left-arm rating badge, with the torpedo pointing in the opposite

direction.

Turret Captain



Chief Turret
Captain

Chief Turret Captain (CTC): 1st Grade
Turret Captain 1st Class (TC1c): 2nd Grade

Supervised crews in gun turrets. Assembled and repaired naval guns. Operated fire control equipment.

Artificer Branch

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Carpenter's Mate



Carpenter's Mate
1st Class

Chief Carpenter's Mate (CCM): 1st Grade
Carpenter's Mate First Class (CM1c): 2nd Grade
Carpenter's Mate Second Class (CM2c): 3rd Grade
Carpenter's Mate Third Class (CM3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as painters and patternmakers.

Used hand and power tools to build and repair all types of wooden construction. Estimated and planned wood construction. Worked with ventilation systems and watertight doors. Served in damage control parties.

Electrician's Mate



Electrician's
Mate
2nd Class

Chief Electrician's Mate (CEM): 1st Grade
Electrician's Mate First Class (EM1c): 2nd Grade
Electrician's Mate Second Class (EM2c): 3rd Grade
Electrician's Mate Third Class (EM3c): 4th Grade

Wired and repaired ships' electrical systems. Operated and maintained electrical motors, generators and alternators. Charged and maintained batteries. Maintained and repaired gyrocompass, fire control and other circuitry.

Painter



Painter 2nd Class

Chief Painter (CPtr): 1st Grade
 Painter First Class (Ptr1c): 2nd Grade
 Painter Second Class (Ptr2c): 3rd Grade
 Painter Third Class (Ptr3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as carpenters' mates and patternmakers.

Chief grade authorized January 1944.

Applied paints and varnishes. Maintained painted surfaces. Laid tile and linoleum flooring. Planned and estimated painting jobs. Maintained fire extinguishers and breathing apparatus. Served in damage control parties.

Patternmaker



Chief Patternmaker

Chief Patternmaker (CPM): 1st Grade
 Patternmaker First Class (PM1c): 2nd Grade
 Patternmaker Second Class (PM2c): 3rd Grade
 Patternmaker Third Class (PM3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as carpenters' mates and painters.

Chief and third class grades authorized January 1944.

Used patternmaking tools. Estimated materials, time and costs for patternmaking and casting jobs.

Printer



Chief Printer

Chief Printer (CPrtr): 1st Grade
 Printer First Class (Prtr1c): 2nd Grade
 Printer Second Class (Prtr2c): 3rd Grade
 Printer Third Class (Prtr3c): 4th Grade

Supervised ships' print shops. Operated composing and duplicating machines and printing presses. Estimated materials, time and costs of printing jobs. Prepared books, newsletters and pamphlets.

Radarman



Radarman 1st
Class

Chief Radarman (CRdM): 1st Grade
 Radarman First Class (RdM1c): 2nd Grade
 Radarman Second Class (RdM2c): 3rd Grade
 Radarman Third Class (RdM3c): 4th Grade

Second and third class grades authorized February 1942. First class authorized February 1943, and Chief in January 1945.

Operated and maintained radar equipment. Stood radar watches.

Radioman



Chief Radioman

Chief Radioman (CRM): 1st Grade
 Radioman First Class (RM1c): 2nd Grade
 Radioman Second Class (RM2c): 3rd Grade
 Radioman Third Class (RM3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as radio technicians and telegraphers.

Operated and maintained all radio sending, receiving and direction finding equipment. Sent and received morse code. Enciphered and deciphered messages. Maintained radio batteries.

Radio Technician



Radio Technician
2nd Class

Chief Radio Technician (CRT): 1st Grade
 Radio Technician First Class (RT1c): 2nd Grade
 Radio Technician Second Class (RT2c): 3rd Grade
 Radio Technician Third Class (RT3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as radiomen and telegraphers.

Authorized April 1942.

Repaired and maintained all radio, radar and electronic equipment.

Shipfitter



Shipfitter 2nd Class

Chief Shipfitter (CSF): 1st Grade
 Shipfitter First Class (SF1c): 2nd Grade
 Shipfitter Second Class (SF2c): 3rd Grade
 Shipfitter Third Class (SF3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as metalsmiths and molders.

Laid out and fabricated metal construction. Fit and repaired pipes and tubing. Forged, welded and soldered metals. Maintained tanks and watertight fixtures.

Maintained fire fighting equipment and breathing apparatus. Served in damage control parties.

Sonarman, Soundman



Sonarman 3rd Class

Chief Sonarman (CSoM): 1st Grade
 Sonarman First Class (SoM1c): 2nd Grade
 Sonarman Second Class (SoM2c): 3rd Grade
 Sonarman Third Class (SoM3c): 4th Grade

The rating's title was originally published in official materials as "soundman," but later revised to "sonarman."

Second and third class grades authorized February 1942. First class authorized in February 1943, and chief in January 1944.

Operated and maintained sonar and hydrophone equipment.

Special Artificer



Special Artificer 1st Class

Chief Special Artificer (CSA): 1st Grade
 Special Artificer First Class (SA1c): 2nd Grade
 Special Artificer Second Class (SA2c): 3rd Grade
 Special Artificer Third Class (SA3c): 4th Grade

Authorized February 1944.

Repaired precision instruments, mechanisms and optical equipment.

Telegrapher



Telegrapher 3rd Class

Chief Telegrapher (CT): 1st Grade
 Telegrapher First Class (T1c): 2nd Grade
 Telegrapher Second Class (T2c): 3rd Grade
 Telegrapher Third Class (T3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as radio technicians and radiomen.

Sent and received messages in shore cable stations.

Before January 1944 there were no third class petty officers in the engine room force as fireman first class was a 4th pay grade rate.

Boilermaker



Chief Boilermaker

Chief Boilermaker (CB): 1st Grade
 Boilermaker First Class (B1c): 2nd Grade
 Boilermaker Second Class (B2c): 3rd Grade
After January 1944:
 Boilermaker Third Class (B3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as machinists' mates and water tenders.

Repaired boilers and associated pipes, tubing and valves. Did welding and soldering jobs. Estimated materials, time and costs for boiler repair jobs.

Machinist's Mate



Machinist's Mate
1st Class

Chief Machinist's Mate (CMM): 1st Grade
 Machinist's Mate First Class (MM1c): 2nd Grade
 Machinist's Mate Second Class (MM2c): 3rd Grade
After January 1944:
 Machinist's Mate Third Class (MM3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as boilermakers and water tenders.

Operated, maintained and repaired steam engines and turbines, auxiliary engines, pumps, distillation plants, and drainage systems. Supervised and stood watch in engine rooms.

Metalsmith



Metalsmith 3rd
Class

Chief Metalsmith (CM): 1st Grade
 Metalsmith First Class (M1c): 2nd Grade
 Metalsmith Second Class (M2c): 3rd Grade
After January 1944:
 Metalsmith Third Class (M3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as shipfitters and molders.

Planned and estimated metal fabrication and repair jobs. Formed, annealed, tempered or case hardened metals. Repaired metal pipes and tubing. Maintained watertight doors and hatches.

Molder



Molder 3rd Class

Chief Molder (CMI): 1st Grade
 Molder First Class (MI1c): 2nd Grade
 Molder Second Class (MI2c): 3rd Grade
After January 1944:
 Molder Third Class (MI3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as shipfitters and metalsmiths.

Chief grade authorized January 1944.

Maintained and operated shipboard foundries. Made metal castings and moldings. Maintained furnaces and crucibles.

Motor Machinist's Mate

Motor Machinist's
Mate 2nd Class

Chief Motor Machinist's Mate (CMoMM): 1st Grade
 Motor Machinist's Mate First Class (MoMM1c): 2nd Grade
 Motor Machinist's Mate Second Class (MoMM2c): 3rd Grade
After January 1944:
 Motor Machinist's Mate Third Class (MoMM3c): 4th Grade

Rating authorized January 1942.

Operated, maintained and repaired gasoline and diesel internal combustion engines and auxiliaries. Worked with machine tools. Planned engine repairs and overhauls. Stood watch and supervised in engine rooms.

Water Tender

Water Tender 1st
Class

Chief Water Tender (CWT): 1st Grade
 Water Tender First Class (WT1c): 2nd Grade
 Water Tender Second Class (WT2c): 3rd Grade
After January 1944:
 Water Tender Third Class (WT3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as machinist's mates and boilermakers.

Operated marine boilers. Stood watch and supervised in fire rooms. Handled evaporators, condensers and feed pumps.

Aviation Branch

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Aerographer, Aerographer's Mate



Aerographer's Mate
1st Class

Chief Aerographer's Mate (CAer): 1st Grade
 Aerographer's Mate First Class (Aer1c): 2nd Grade
 Aerographer's Mate Second Class (Aer2c): 3rd Grade
 Aerographer's Mate Third Class (Aer3c): 4th Grade

Title changed to aerographer's mate with the establishment of aerographer as a warrant officer rank in August 1942.

Installed and maintained meteorological equipment in weather stations afloat and ashore. Took atmospheric readings and soundings. Computed weather balloon data. Prepared weather charts. Made and recorded weather observations.

Airship Rigger



Chief Airship
Rigger

Chief Airship Rigger (CAR): 1st Grade
 Airship Rigger First Class (AR1c): 2nd Grade
 Airship Rigger Second Class (AR2c): 3rd Grade
 Airship Rigger Third Class (AR3c): 4th Grade

Served in airship crews. Moored and secured airships. Made repairs to airship structure.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate



Aviation Boatswain's
Mate 2nd Class

Aviation Chief Boatswain's Mate (ACBM): 1st Grade
 Aviation Boatswain's Mate First Class (ABM1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Boatswain's Mate Second Class (ABM2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Boatswain's Mate Third Class (ABM3c): 4th Grade

Authorized September 1944.

Moved, handled and fueled planes. Operated and maintained carrier catapults, arresting gear, and crash barriers.

Aviation Electrician's Mate



Chief Aviation Electrician's Mate (ACEM): 1st Grade
 Aviation Electrician's Mate First Class (AEM1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Electrician's Mate Second Class (AEM2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Electrician's Mate Third Class (AEM3c): 4th Grade

Authorized September, 1942.

Installed, maintained and repaired aircraft electrical systems and batteries.

Aviation Electrician's
 Mate 3rd Class

Aviation Machinist's Mate



Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate (ACMM): 1st Grade
 Aviation Machinist's Mate First Class (AMM1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Machinist's Mate Second Class (AMM2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Machinist's Mate Third Class (AMM3c): 4th Grade

Assembled, serviced and maintained aircraft engines and mechanical parts.
 Machined small aircraft parts.

Aviation Machinist's
 Mate 1st Class

Aviation Metalsmith



Aviation Chief Metalsmith (ACM): 1st Grade
 Aviation Metalsmith First Class (AM1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Metalsmith Second Class (AM2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Metalsmith Third Class (AM3c): 4th Grade

Maintained and repaired aircraft sheet metal, piping, radiators, and instruments.
 Welded, machined and forged aircraft parts.

Aviation
 Metalsmith 2nd
 Class

Aviation Ordnanceman



Aviation Chief Ordnanceman (ACOM): 1st Grade
 Aviation Ordnanceman First Class (AOM1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Ordnanceman Second Class (AOM2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Ordnanceman Third Class (AOM3c): 4th Grade

Maintained and repaired aircraft machine guns, bombs, fuses, bomb sights, and aircraft oxygen equipment. Handled aircraft ammunition.

Aviation
 Ordnanceman 3rd
 Class

Aviation Pilot



Aviation Pilot 2nd
Class
(before July 1944)



Aviation Pilot 1st
Class
(before July 1944)



Chief Aviation Pilot
(after July 1944)

Chief Aviation Pilot (CAP): 1st Grade
 Aviation Pilot First Class (AP1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Pilot Second Class (AP2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Pilot Third Class (AP3c): 4th Grade

Authorized in all grades March 1942. Third class rate eliminated July 1942.

Before July 1944 the specialty mark was gold or yellow on all rating badges. After that date, the mark was changed to the standard color schemes. There were variations with wings similar to the other aviation specialty marks, and others with straight wings similar to the naval aviator/aviation pilot breast insignia.

Piloted airplanes and airships.

Aviation Radioman



Aviation Radioman
3rd Class

Aviation Chief Radioman (ACRM): 1st Grade
 Aviation Radioman First Class (ARM1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Radioman Second Class (ARM2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Radioman Third Class (ARM3c): 4th Grade

Authorized January 1942.

Wore the same specialty marks as aviation radio technicians.

Operated all aircraft radio equipment. Enciphered and deciphered messages.

Aviation Radio Technician



Aviation Radio
Technician 1st Class

Aviation Chief Radio Technician (ACRT): 1st Grade
 Aviation Radio Technician First Class (ART1c): 2nd Grade
 Aviation Radio Technician Second Class (ART2c): 3rd Grade
 Aviation Radio Technician Third Class (ART3c): 4th Grade

Authorized December 1942.

Wore the same specialty mark as aviation radiomen.

Maintained and repaired aircraft radios, radar and electronic equipment.

Parachute Rigger



Chief Parachute
Rigger

Chief Parachute Rigger (CPR): 1st Grade
 Parachute Rigger First Class (PR1c): 2nd Grade
 Parachute Rigger Second Class (PR2c): 3rd Grade
 Parachute Rigger Third Class (PR3c): 4th Grade

Authorized February, 1942.

Packed and repaired parachutes. Maintained parachute fabric and aircrew survival equipment.

Photographer, Photographer's Mate



Chief
Photographer's
Mate

Chief Photographer's Mate (CPhoM): 1st Grade
 Photographer's Mate First Class (PhoM1c): 2nd Grade
 Photographer's Mate Second Class (PhoM2c): 3rd Grade
 Photographer's Mate Third Class (PhoM3c): 4th Grade

Title changed to photographer's mate after the establishment of the warrant rank of photographer in August 1942.

Installed and maintained aerial cameras. Assembled aerial photographic maps. Developed film and made prints and slides. Operated motion picture cameras and projectors. Served in naval photographic units.

Storekeeper Aviation, Storekeeper V



Chief Storekeeper, Aviation (CSKV): 1st Grade
 Storekeeper, Aviation First Class (SKV1c): 2nd Grade
 Storekeeper, Aviation Second Class (SKV2c): 3rd Grade
 Storekeeper, Aviation Third Class (SKV3c): 4th Grade

Authorized March, 1945.

Requisitioned, stored and issued aviation stores and supplies.

Storekeeper V 3rd
Class

Commissary Branch

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Commissary Steward



Chief Commissary Steward (CCStd): 1st Grade

Chief
Commissary
Steward

Chief commissary stewards were promoted from the ship's cook or baker rates.

Supervised ships' galleys. Requisitioned, accounted for and directed stowage of foodstuffs and provisions. Planned menus. Made cost and consumption estimates.

Baker



Baker First Class (Bkr1c): 2nd Grade
 Baker Second Class (Bkr2c): 3rd Grade
 Baker Third Class (Bkr3c): 4th Grade

Baker 2nd Class

Wore the same specialty mark as ships' cooks, cooks and stewards.

Did all kinds of baking. Operated ovens and baking equipment. Set up field ovens ashore.

Ship's Cook



Ship's Cook First Class (SC1c): 2nd Grade
 Ship's Cook Second Class (SC2c): 3rd Grade
 Ship's Cook Third Class (SC3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as bakers, cooks and stewards.

Prepared and cooked meals. Operated all kitchen equipment. Inspected and stored provisions.

Ship's Cook 1st
Class

Special Branch

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Bandmaster



Bandmaster (Bmstr): 1st Grade

Bandmaster

Re-classified as chief musician, January 1944.

Conducted bands and orchestras. Arranged music for performance. Applied knowledge of music theory. Performed on an instrument.

Buglemaster



Chief Buglemaster (CBgmstr): 1st Grade
Buglemaster First Class (Bgmstr1c): 2nd Grade
Buglemaster Second Class (Bgmstr2c): 3rd Grade
Buglemaster Third Class (Bgmstr3c): 4th Grade

Buglemaster 1st
Class

Third class rate authorized January, 1944.

Arranged bugle and drum calls and honors to be rendered. Led drum and bugle groups or regimental band, served as drum major.

First Musician



First Musician (1st Mus): 2nd Grade

First Musician

Re-classified as musician first class, January 1944.

Led band in absence of bandmaster. Read music at sight and performed on an instrument.

Mailman



Mailman 2nd
Class

Chief Mailman (CMaM): 1st Grade
 Mailman First Class (MaM1c): 2nd Grade
 Mailman Second Class (MaM2c): 3rd Grade
 Mailman Third Class (MaM3c): 4th Grade

Authorized November 1944.

Sorted and delivered mail and packages in naval post offices.

Musician



Musician 3rd
Class

Chief Musician (CMus): 1st Grade
 Musician First Class (Mus1c): 2nd Grade
 Musician Second Class (Mus2c): 3rd Grade
 Musician Third Class (Mus3c): 4th Grade

Authorized January 1944,
absorbing bandmaster and
first musician rates.

Read music by sight and
performed on an instrument
in navy bands and orchestras.
Senior grades led and
conducted music groups.

Pharmacist's Mate



Pharmacist's Mate
1st Class

Chief Pharmacist's Mate (CPhM): 1st Grade
 Pharmacist's Mate First Class (PhM1c): 2nd Grade
 Pharmacist's Mate Second Class (PhM2c): 3rd Grade
 Pharmacist's Mate Third Class (PhM3c): 4th Grade

Specialty mark was red on all
uniforms.

Administered first aid and
performed minor surgery.
Prepared and administered
medication and anesthetics.
Kept sick bay records and
accounted for medical
supplies.

Ship's Service Man, Ship's Serviceman



Ship's Service Man
3rd Class

Chief Ship's Service Man (CSSM): 1st Grade
 Ship's Service Man First Class (SSM1c): 2nd Grade
 Ship's Service Man Second Class (SSM2c): 3rd Grade
 Ship's Service Man Third Class (SSM3c): 4th Grade

Authorized February 1944.

Both versions of the title can
be found in official navy
sources during the war.
"Ship's serviceman"
eventually became official.

Served ships' crews as tailors,
barbers, cobblers or
laundrymen.

Storekeeper

Left sleeve rating badge	Chief Storekeeper (CSK):	1st Grade
	Storekeeper First Class (SK1c):	2nd Grade
	Storekeeper Second Class (SK2c):	3rd Grade
	Storekeeper Third Class (SK3c):	4th Grade

Storekeeper
1st Class

Requisitioned, recorded, received, inventoried and issued naval stores and supplies. Supervised in naval storerooms and warehouses. Made estimates and reports on supply requirements.

Yeoman



Yeoman 2nd
Class

Chief Yeoman (CY):	1st Grade
Yeoman First Class (Y1c):	2nd Grade
Yeoman Second Class (Y2c):	3rd Grade
Yeoman Third Class (Y3c):	4th Grade

Did clerical work or supervised in naval offices. Took dictation and typed reports and correspondence. Kept naval files and personnel records. Handled details of enlistments, transfers, promotions, leaves and transportation.

Messman Branch

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Officer's Cook, Cook

Before June 1944:



Chief 1st Class 2nd Class 3rd Class

After June 1944:



Chief Cook

Before 1943:

Officer's Chief Cook (OCC):	1st Grade
Officer's Cook 1st Class (OC1c):	2nd Grade
Officer's Cook 2nd Class (OC2c):	3rd Grade
Officer's Cook 3rd Class (OC3c):	4th Grade

After 1943:

Chief Cook (Cck):	1st Grade
Cook 1st Class (Ck1c):	2nd Grade
Cook 2nd Class (Ck2c):	3rd Grade
Cook 3rd Class (Ck3c):	4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as stewards, ships' cooks and bakers.

The first insignia illustrated were officially distinguishing marks rather than rating badges.

Prepared and cooked food in officers' galleys.

Estimated food requirements and accounted for foodstuff for officers' messes.

Officer's Steward, Steward

Before June 1944:



Chief 1st Class 2nd Class 3rd Class

After June 1944:



Steward 3rd Class

Before 1943:

Officer's Chief Steward (OCS): 1st Grade
 Officer's Steward 1st Class (OS1c): 2nd Grade
 Officer's Steward 2nd Class (OS2c): 3rd Grade
 Officer's Steward 3rd Class (OS3c): 4th Grade

After 1943:

Chief Steward (CStd): 1st Grade
 Steward 1st Class (Std1c): 2nd Grade
 Steward 2nd Class (Std2c): 3rd Grade
 Steward 3rd Class (Std3c): 4th Grade

Wore the same specialty mark as cooks, ships' cooks and bakers.

The first insignia illustrated were officially distinguishing marks rather than rating badges.

Made arrangements for officers' messes. Kept records of food used and purchased. Estimated requirements and costs for officers' messes. Supervised mess attendants/stewards' mates.

Specialist Branch

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Specialist



Appropriate letter substituted for the X:

Chief Specialist (X) (CSpX): 1st Grade
 Specialist (X) First Class (SpX1c): 2nd Grade
 Specialist (X) Second Class (SpX2c): 3rd Grade
 Specialist (X) Third Class (SpX3c): 4th Grade

















Authorized January 1942.

Specialists served in a wide range of capacities that were not normally a part of the peacetime navy. They could

Specialist (E) 2nd
Class

enter the navy at any petty officer rate depending upon qualifications from civilian life.

The designated specialties varied throughout the war. For full details, see John Stacey, "U.S. Navy Rating Badges, Specialty Marks and Distinguishing Marks."

	Specialist A: Athletic Instructor, Physical Training Instructor
	Specialist C: Classification Interviewer
	Specialist E: Recreation and Welfare Assistant, Motion Picture Service Booker
	Specialist F: Fire Fighter
	Specialist G: Gunnery Instructor, Aviation Free Gunnery Instructor, Anti-Aircraft Gunnery Instructor
	Specialist I: I.B.M. Operator, Punch Card Accounting Machine Operator
	Specialist M: Mail Clerk
	Specialist O: Inspector of Naval Material
	Specialist P: Photographic Specialist, Motion Picture Technician, Photo Laboratory Specialist, Photogrammetry Specialist
	Specialist Q: Communications Specialist, Cryptologist, Cryptanalyst, Radio Intelligence Technician, Registered Publications Clerk
	Specialist R: Recruiter
	Specialist S: Entertainer, Shore Patrol and Security, Master-at-Arms (WAVE), Personnel Supervisor (WAVE)
	Specialist T: Teacher, Instructor
	Specialist U: Utility (WAVE)
	Specialist V: Transport Airman
	Specialist W: Chaplain's Assistant



Specialist X: Air Station Operations, Artist, Cartographer, Intelligence, Key Punch Operator, Pigeon Trainer, Plastics Expert, Public Information, Special Projects, Strategic Services, Switchboard Operator, Topographic Draftsman, other specialists not otherwise classified



Specialist Y: Control Tower Operator

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e-mail contact:

