



COMMANDER'S CALL TOPICS

NOTE: This product has embedded hyperlinks and is best viewed online.

21—25 May 2018

Priority Topic

of the
Week:

Air Force Uniform Transition to OCP

Air Force leaders announced the service will move to a single combat utility uniform, adopting the Operational Camouflage Pattern, or OCP, already in use by the Army and Airmen in combat zones and in certain jobs across the Air Force starting **Oct. 1, 2018**. The service will fully transition to OCPs by **April 1, 2021**.

OCP Transition

Air Force leaders decided to transition to the OCP following feedback from Airmen that it is the best, battle-tested utility uniform available. It will also eliminate the need to maintain two separate uniforms – one for in-garrison and one for deployments – and it is a visible reminder of the service's identity as a joint warfighting force.

Feedback from the force indicated Airmen find the OCP more functional—from the slanted, Velcro chest pockets to the easily-accessible shoulder pockets. Female Airmen have made it clear that this uniform is a better fit, as well.

Official wear guidance will be published in AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance, in the coming months. Interim wear guidance is posted on the Air Force's Personnel Center Dress and Appearance page.

Airmen already wearing OCPs should continue to wear the uniform according to approved local wear policy.

Where can I get the new Uniform?

Airmen can purchase the OCP initially at an AAFES Military Clothing Sales Store at the following locations starting Oct. 1, 2018: Aviano Air Base, Italy; Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina; Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina; and MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. From there, manufacturing levels are expected to ramp up across all AAFES locations world-wide in the months thereafter.

When purchasing uniforms at AAFES stores, service members must show proof of service branch and rank, and/or deployment orders to acquire the appropriate uniform and accessories.

Timeline

Oct. 1, 2018

- Serviceable OCPs may be worn
- Airmen can purchase OCPs at the following AAFES locations: Aviano, AB, Charleston AFB, Shaw AFB, and MacDill AFB

April 1, 2019

- Expansion of in-store AAFES sales locations continues
- Tan T-shirt must be worn (Desert Sand is authorized until this date)

Oct. 1, 2019

- Online sales projected to be available

June 1, 2020

- Coyote Brown boots must be worn (Tan is authorized until this date)
- DLA issued green socks must be worn (Desert Tan, Tan authorized until this date)

April 1, 2021

- OCP Mandatory Wear Date



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Additional Facts

- Airmen may wear any OCP officially in the inventory since 2012, as long as it is serviceable and they wear it according to the interim guidance published on myPers, and eventually in AFI 36-2903.
- ABU cold weather gear is not authorized for wear with OCPs, nor vice versa.
- Manufacturers cannot produce enough OCPs for every Airman to purchase right away. The inventories readily available at AAFES are based on current Army demand levels.
- The Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard will begin to transition to the OCP in conjunction with active-duty Airmen.
- Reserve and Guard Airmen can expect to acquire uniforms as they normally would, whether that is through their units or by purchasing at an AAFES store when available.
- Enlisted Airmen should start to see an increase to their annual clothing allowances starting Oct. 1, 2018.
- The Air Force will also outfit Basic Military Training, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, and Officer Training School starting October 1, 2019.
- The OCP works in all climates across the spectrum of missions we perform
- Over 100,000 Airmen have been issued and/or already wear OCPs. This includes Air Force Central Command, Air Force Special Operations Command, and Air Force Global Strike Command Defenders.
- The OCP will bring back Air Force heraldry with unit patches
- The Air Force will maintain the distinctive uniforms in blues, service dress, mess dress, and PT gear.

Additional Information

AFPC Dress and Appearance Page

<http://www.afpc.af.mil/Career-Management/Dress-and-Appearance/>

MyPers

https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/detail/a_id/38376

Personnel Topics of Interest

- Additive manufacturing capability could generate future efficiencies and cost savings ([AF.MIL](#))
- Kessel Run hits hyperdrive ([AF.MIL](#))
- 2018 JINSA Grateful Nation Award nominees sought ([AFPC](#))
- AF transitions to a single combat uniform ([AF.MIL](#))

Monthly Observances

Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage ([click link for additional information](#))
Memorial Day ([click link for additional information](#))

Commander's Call Topic Archive: <http://www.af.mil/AboutUs/CommandersCallTopics.aspx>

Commander's Call Topics is published weekly by SAF/PA to ensure leaders at all levels remain current on issues concerning Airmen and families. Requests for information to be included in future editions should be sent to SAF/PAI via [email](#).

Submissions should include:

- 1) 1-2 sentence synopsis of the issue
- 2) hyperlink to further details
- 3) a POC name and contact information.

*Only submissions that pertaining to the majority of Airmen or specifically to command leadership teams will be considered. Local or limited-interest items will not be included.