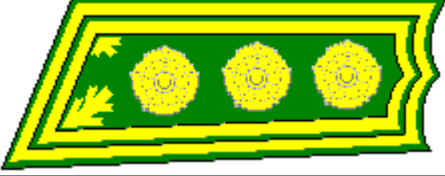
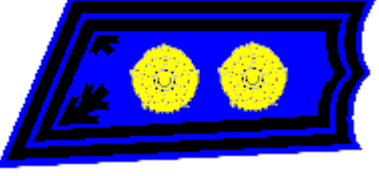
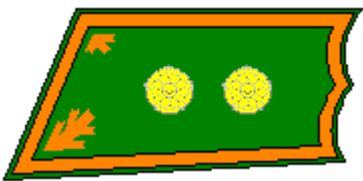
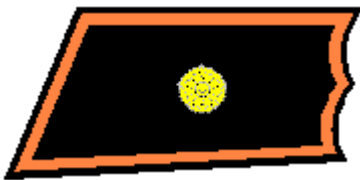
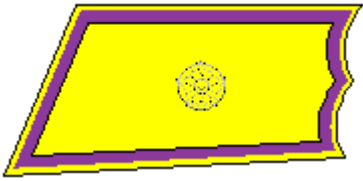


FINNISH MILITARY RANKS

INSIGNIA OF RANK & COLLAR BADGE COLOURS 1939 - 1945

COLLAR BADGES m/36-39

Army & Air Force	Finnish Rank Army, Cavalry, Air Force (Abbreviation)	English Equivalent (Abbreviation) Notes
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS		
	Kenraali (kenr.)	General (Gen.)
	Kenraaliluutnantti (kenrl.)	Lieutenant General (Lt.Gen.)
	Kenraalimajuri (kenrm.)	Major General (Maj.Gen.)
	Eversti (ev.)	Colonel (Col.)
	Everstiluutnantti (evl. / ev.ltn.)	Lieutenant Colonel (Lt.Col.)
	Majuri (maj.)	Major (Maj.)
	Kapteeni (kapt.) Ratsumestari (ratsum.)	Captain (Capt.) Cavalry Captain (Cav.Capt.)

		
	Lutnantti (ltn.)	~~First~~ Lieutenant (1st Lt. or Lt.) ~~XXXX~~  <i>Yliluutnantti</i> <i>Premiärlöjtnant</i> 1st Lt.
	Vänrikki (vänr.)	Second Lieutenant (2nd Lt. or 2Lt.)
	Kornetti (korn.)	Cornet (Cor.)
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (NCOs)		
	Sotilasmestari (stm.)	Warrant Officer (WO)
	Lentomestari (lntm.)	[literally:] Flying Master
	Vääpeli (vääp.)	Master Sergeant (M.Sgt)
	Ylikersantti (ylik.)	Staff Sergeant (S.Sgt)
	Kersantti (kers.)	Sergeant (Sgt)
	Alikersantti (alík.)	Corporal (Cpl)
CADETS, STUDENTS AND TRAINEES		
	Kadetti (kad.)	Cadet (Equals to S.Sgt or M.Sgt depending on the class level -> promoted to 2nd Lt. after <i>Cadet School</i>)
	Kanta-aliupseerioppilas (k-au.opp.)	Cadre NCO Student (Equals to Sgt -> promoted to S.Sgt after <i>Cadre NCO School</i>)

	Upseerikokelas / Kokelas (u.kok. / kok.)	(Reserve) Officer Trainee (Equals to Sergeant -> promoted to 2nd Lt. after compulsory conscription)
	Upseerioppilas (u.opp. / ups.opp.)	(Reserve) Officer Student (Equals to Cpl -> promoted to Officer Trainee after <i>Reserve Officer School</i>)
	Aliupseerioppilas / Oppilas (au.opp. / opp.)	(Reserve) NCO Student (Equals to Private or L.Cpl -> promoted to L.Cpl during or after the reserve NCO school and to Cpl after it)
ENLISTED MEN (1941-)		
	Rajajääkäri (rj.jääk.)	Frontier (Guard) Jäger (Equals to Cpl)
MEN		
	Korporaali (korpr.)	Lance Corporal (L.Cpl)
	Sotamies (stm.) Alokas (alok.)	Private (Priv.) Recruit *
	Jääkäri (jääk.)	Jäger
	Lentosotamies (Int.stm.)	Airman (Airm.)

NOTES

* **Alokas** [Recruit] is the name for **Sotamies** [Private] before taking the military oath. It is not a military rank.

1. Pre-additions to the rank of General are "Cavalry", "Infantry" and "Artillery" e.g. "Infantry General".

2. The rank of **Field Marshal** was only for Finnish C-in-C C. G. *E Mannerheim* when he became the Chairman of the unofficial Defence Council in the early 1930's. The title **Marshal of Finland** was unofficial honour rank/title only

awarded to him on 4.6.1942 (75th birthday).

3. The ranks of **Ylivääpeli** [Senior Master Sergeant] and **Yliluutnantti** [Senior Lieutenant] were not used during the WW II. A new General's rank **Prikaatikenraali** [Brigade General] was introduced during the 1980's with one lion and all former Generals' ranks got one more lion.

4. During the war cadre NCOs who were also reserve officers used their reserve ranks.

5. Before and during the Winter War reserve officers used silver "roses" and their rank had an official prefix "reservi" (abbreviation "res.") [= "reserve" e.g. Reserve Lieutenant or Lieutenant in Reserve]. Higher reserve officers (up from Major) and retired officers used normal golden roses. Later in 1940 silver "roses" and "in reserve" prefix were discontinued and all officers used golden ones thereafter.

6. Collar badges were usually used only by the conscripts, enlisted men, cadre NCOs and cadre officers. In many cases "roses" were although used without collar badges like with older m/22 and m/27 uniforms or just not to reveal leaders so easily in combat. Conscript Lance Corporals and NCOs usually had plain rank badges of Private and older style rank badge bands in shoulder straps.

COLLAR PATCH COLOURS 1939 - 1945

Background Colour	Emroidery Colour	Branch of Service or Unit
CARMINE	GREY	General Staff officers, Military Academy
DARK GREEN	LIGHT GREY	general colour, infantry, Reserve Officer School (trainees)
DARK GREEN	YELLOW	jäger troops (light infantry)
DARK GREEN	ORANGE	Frontier Guard
YELLOW	GREY	cavalry, Cavalry Brigade Staff
YELLOW	DARK BLUE	Uusimaa Dragoon Regiment (URR)
YELLOW	DARK RED	Häme Mounted Regiment (HRR)
YELLOW	VIOLET	(mounted) Signals Squadron
VIOLET	GREY	engineer troops (1941-)
VIOLET	YELLOW	signals troops (1941-)
VIOLET	GREY	technical troops (1939-1940), Army chaplains (1939-1942)
VIOLET	BLACK	engineer and signals troops (including their <i>Reserve Officer School</i> trainees before 1940), fortress troops (1944-)
RED	BLACK	field artillery, anti-aircraft artillery, fortress artillery, Riding Battery
BLACK	GREY	Separate Tank Company (-1940), Field Bishop, Army chaplains (1942-)
BLACK	ORANGE	armoured troops (1941-)
BLACK	RED	Navy General Staff, coastal artillery, Naval School
GREY	PURPLE	military judges (1942-)
GREY	RED	military hospitals and pharmacies
DARK BLUE	YELLOW	Cadet School
BRIGHT BLUE	LIGHT GREY	Ministry of Defence, depots and factories, supply troops
BRIGHT BLUE	BLACK	Air Force

Note: Navy personnel didn't use collar patches (except if otherwise indicated).

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