

Ranks and insignia of the *Luftwaffe* (1935–1945)

The **ranks of the *Luftwaffe*** were similar to other branches of the Wehrmacht.

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Rank insignia

Insignia ^[1]			Title	Approximate equivalents during World War II	
Collar	Shoulder	Sleeve (Flight suit)		US ^[2]	UK ^[3]
Generalsränge					
		N/A	<u>Reichsmarschall</u>	<u>General of the Armies</u>	N/A
			<u>Generalfeldmarschall</u>	<u>General of the Air Force</u>	<u>Marshal of the Royal Air Force</u>
			<u>Generaloberst</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Air Chief Marshal</u>
			<u>General der Waffengattung</u> <u>General der Flieger</u> <u>General der Fallschirmtruppe</u> <u>General der Lufterrichtungsgruppe</u> <u>General der Flakartillerie</u> <u>General der Luftwaffe</u>	<u>Lieutenant General</u>	<u>Air Marshal</u>
			<u>Generalleutnant</u>	<u>Major General</u>	<u>Air Vice-Marshal</u>
			<u>Generalmajor</u>	<u>Brigadier General</u>	<u>Air Commodore</u>
Offiziersränge					
			<u>Oberst</u>	<u>Colonel</u>	<u>Group Captain</u>
			<u>Oberstleutnant</u>	<u>Lieutenant Colonel</u>	<u>Wing Commander</u>
			<u>Major</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Squadron Leader</u>
			<u>Hauptmann</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>Flight Lieutenant</u>

			<u>Oberleutnant</u>	<u>First Lieutenant</u>	<u>Flying Officer</u>
			<u>Leutnant</u>	<u>Second Lieutenant</u>	<u>Pilot Officer</u>
Unteroffiziere and Offizieranwärter (OA)					
			<u>Stabsfeldwebel-Fahnenjunker</u>	N/A	
			<u>Stabsfeldwebel</u>	<u>Sergeant major</u>	<u>Warrant Officer</u>
			<u>Fahnenjunker-Oberfeldwebel</u>	<u>Flight cadet</u>	<u>Acting pilot officer</u>
			<u>Oberfeldwebel</u>	<u>Master Sergeant</u>	N/A
			<u>Fahnenjunker-Feldwebel</u>	N/A	
			<u>Feldwebel</u>	<u>Technical Sergeant</u>	<u>Flight Sergeant</u>
			<u>Fahnenjunker-Unterfeldwebel</u>	<u>Flight Cadet</u>	<u>Officer Cadet</u>
			<u>Unterfeldwebel</u>	<u>Staff Sergeant</u>	<u>Sergeant</u>
			<u>Fahnenjunker-Unteroffizier</u>	<u>Flight Cadet</u>	<u>Officer Cadet</u>
			<u>Unteroffizier</u>	<u>Sergeant</u>	<u>Corporal</u>
Mannschaften					
			<u>Stabsgefreiter</u>	<u>Senior Airman</u>	<u>Leading Aircraftman</u>
			<u>Hauptgefreiter</u> (used until 1944)		
			<u>Obergefreiter</u>	<u>Airman first class</u>	
			<u>Gefreiter</u>	<u>Airman</u>	

					
		N/A	<i>Flieger</i>	<u>Airman basic</u>	<u>Aircraftman</u> 2nd Class

Condor Legion (1936–1939)

Insignia		Title
Chest	Cuff	
N/A		<u>Generalleutnant</u>
N/A		<u>Generalmajor</u>
N/A		<u>Oberst</u>
	N/A	<u>Oberstleutnant</u>
	N/A	<u>Major</u>
	N/A	<u>Hauptmann</u>
	N/A	<u>Oberleutnant</u>
	N/A	<u>Leutnant</u>
	N/A	<u>Feldwebel</u>
	N/A	<u>Unteroffizier</u>
	N/A	<u>Legionär</u>

References

Citations

- Stedman 2002, pp. 17–19.
- War Department 1945.

3. CIA 1999, p. 18.

Bibliography

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- War Department (15 March 1945). "Chapter IX: Uniforms, Insignia, and Individual Equipment". *War Department Technical Manual TM-E 30-451* (<http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/Germany/HB/HB-9.html>). Plate XI–XII.

See also

- World War II German Army ranks and insignia
 - Corps colours of the Luftwaffe (1935–45)
 - Luftwaffe personnel structure
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