

Ranks of the Czechoslovak Armed Forces

Ranks of the Czechoslovak Armed Forces shows the military ranks and rank insignia in use by the First Czechoslovak Republic, the Second Czechoslovak Republic, the Third Czechoslovak Republic, and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

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Overview

After the independence of Czechoslovakia, the new republic at first used the ranks of the Austro-Hungarian Army, but from 1920 a system was introduced that was basically similar to the one used presently by today's Army of the Czech Republic.^[1]

Rank and file

- Vojín (Slovak: *Vojak*)– Private
- Svobodník (Slovak: *Slobodník*) – Lance Corporal

Non-commissioned officers

- *Desátník* (Slovak: *Desiatnik*)– Corporal
- *Četař* (Slovak: *Čatár*)– Sergeant
- *Rotný* (Slovak: *Rotný*)– Staff Sergeant
- *Staršina* (Slovak: *Staršina*)– *Starshina/Master Sergeant (part of the rank system 1948–1959)*
- *Rotmistr* (Slovak: *Rotmajster*)– (Company) Sergeant Major
- *Nadrotmistr* (Slovak: *Nadrotmajster*)– Senior (Company) Sergeant Major
- *Štábní rotmistr* (Slovak: *Štábný rotmajster*)– Staff (Company) Sergeant Major

Warrant officers

- *Podpraporčík* (Slovak: *Podpráporčík*)– Podpraporshchik/Junior Warrant Officer
- *Praporčík* (Slovak: *Práporčík*)– Praporshchik/Warrant officer
- *Nadpraporčík* (Slovak: *Nadpráporčík*)– Nadpraporshchik/Senior Warrant Officer
- *Štábní praporčík* (Slovak: *Štábný práporčík*)– *Staff Praporshchik/Chief Warrant Officer (abolished 1949)*

Officers

- *Podporučík* (Slovak: *Podporučík*)– Podporuchik **Jr. Lieutenant**
- *Poručík* (Slovak: *Poručík*)– Poruchik **2nd Lieutenant**

- *Nadporučík* (Slovak: *Nadporučík*)– *Nadporučik* **1st Lieutenant**
- *Kapitán* (Slovak: *Kapitán*)– *Captain* **Stotník**
- *Štábní kapitán* (Slovak: *Štábny kapitán*)– *Staff Captain* (*abolished 1953*)
- *Major* (Slovak: *Major*)– *Major*
- *Podplukovník* (Slovak: *Podplukovník*)– *Podpolkovnik* **Lt. Colonel**
- *Plukovník* (Slovak: *Plukovník*)– *Polkovnik* **Colonel**
- *Brigádní generál* (Slovak: *Brigádny generál*)– *Brigadier General* (*abolished 1950*)
- *Divizní generál* (Slovak: *Divízny generál*)– *Divisional General* (*abolished 1950*)
- *Generálmajor* (Slovak: *Generálmajor*)– *Major General*
- *Generálporučík* (Slovak: *Generálporučík*)– *Lieutenant General*
- *Sborový generál* (Slovak: *Zborový generál*)– *Corps General* (*abolished 1950*)
- *Generálplukovník* (Slovak: *Generálplukovník*)– *Colonel General*
- *Armádní generál* (Slovak: *Armádný generál*)– *General of the Army*
- *Vrchní velitel branné moci* (Slovak: *Vrchný veliteľ brannej moci*)– *Supreme commander of the Armed Forces* (*abolished 1959*)

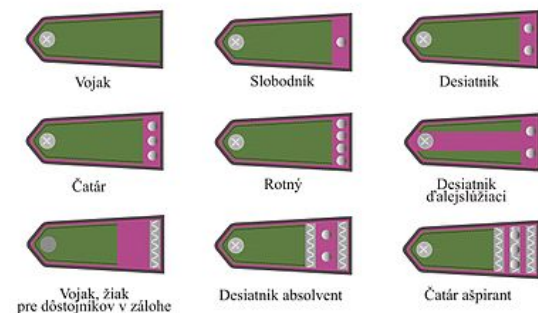
Army ranks (1930-1939)

Rank and file, and junior non-commissioned officers

- *Vojín* - Private
- *Svobodník* - Lance Corporal
- *Desátník* - Corporal
- *Četař* - Sergeant
- *Rotný* - Staff Sergeant

Source:^[1]

Vojenské hodnosti mužstva do roku 1939



Source:^[2] The rank titles in the image are in *Slovak*.

Senior non-commissioned officers

- *Rotmistr* - (Company) Sergeant Major
- *Štábní Rotmistr* - Staff (Company) Sergeant Major
- *Praporčík* - Praporshchik/Warrant Officer
- *Štábní praporčík* - Staff Praporshchik/Chief Warrant Officer (introduced 1938)

Source:^[1]

Vojenské hodnosti rotmajstrov 1930-1939



^[2] The senior non-commissioned officers received new rank insignia 1938. The rank titles in the image are in *Slovak*.

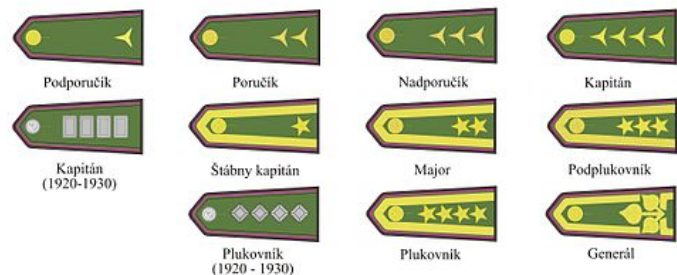
Commissioned officers

- *Podporučík* - Podporučik/Junior Lieutenant
- *Poručík* - Poruchik/Lieutenant
- *Nadporučík* - Nadporučik/Senior Lieutenant
- *Kapitán* - Captain
- *Štábní kapitán* - Staff Captain
- *Major* - Major
- *Podplukovník* - Podpolkovnik/Lieutenant Colonel
- *Plukovník* - Polkovnik/Colonel
- *Brigádní generál* - Brigadier General
- *Divisní generál* - Divisional General
- *Armádní generál* - General of the Army

Until 1930, the rank of General, equivalent to that of a Brigadier or Brigadier General, was the highest rank of the Czechoslovak Army and Air Force.

Source:^[1]

Vojenské hodnosti důstojníků do roku 1939



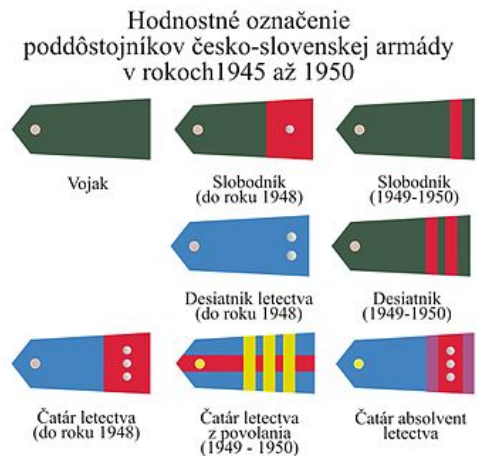
^[2] The different ranks of the general officers were denoted by two to four stars on the sleeve. The rank titles in the image are in *Slovak*.

Army ranks (1945-1950)

Rank and file, and junior non-commissioned officers

- *Vojín* - Private
- *Svobodník* - Lance Corporal
- *Desátník* - Corporal
- *Četař* - Sergeant

Source:^[1]



Source:^[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

Senior non-commissioned officers

- *Rotný* - Staff Sergeant
- *Staršina* - Starshina/Master Sergeant (introduced 1949)
- *Rotmistr* - (Company) Sergeant Major
- *Štábní Rotmistr* - Staff (Company) Sergeant Major
- *Praporčík* - Praporshchik/Warrant Officer
- *Štábní praporčík* - Staff Praporshchik/Chief Warrant Officer (introduced 1938)

Source:^[1]



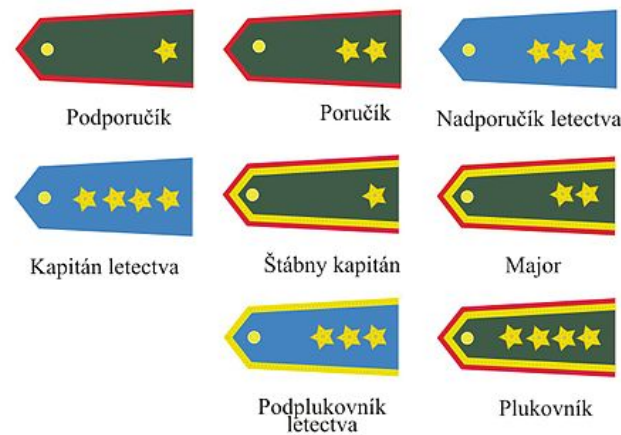
^[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

Company and field grade officers

- *Podporučík* - Podporuchik
- *Poručík* - Poruchik
- *Nadporučík* - Nadporuchik
- *Kapitán* - Captain
- *Štábní kapitán* - Staff Captain
- *Major* - Major
- *Podplukovník* - Podpolkovnik
- *Plukovník* - Polkovnik

Source:^[1]

Hodnostné označenie
dôstojníkov česko-slovenskej armády
v rokoch 1945 až 1950



^[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

General officers

- *Brigádní generál* - Brigadier General
- *Divisní generál* - Divisional General
- *Sborový generál* - Army Corps General (introduced 1948)
- *Armádní generál* - General of the Army

Source:^[1]

Army ranks (1951-1958)

Rank and file, and junior non-commissioned officers

- *Vojín* - Private
- *Svobodník* - Lance Corporal
- *Desátník* - Corporal
- *Četař* - Sergeant

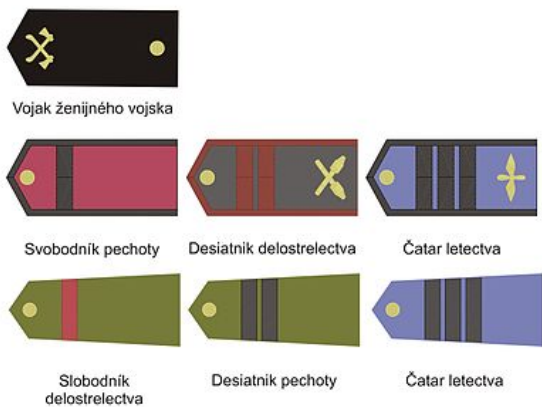
Source:^[1]

Hodnostné označenie
generálov česko-slovenskej armády
v rokoch 1945 až 1950



^[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

Hodnosti mužstva a poddôstojníkov
Česko-Slovenskej armády 1951 až 1958

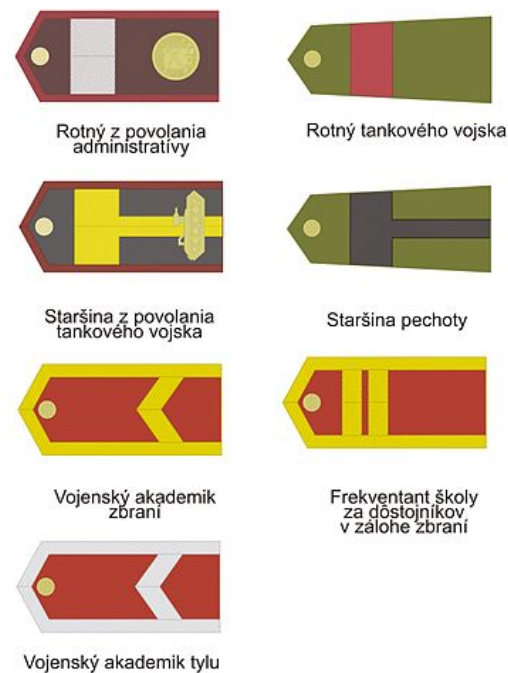


Source:^[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

Senior non-commissioned officers, and officer cadets

- *Rotný* - Staff Sergeant
- *Staršina* - Starshina/Master Sergeant

Hodnosti rotných a frekventantov škôl Česko-Slovenskej armády 1951 až 1958



[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

Officers

Rank group	National rank	General/flag officers				Field/senior officers				Junior officers				Officer cadet
														
Czechoslovakia	Vrchní velitel branné moci (abolished 1958)	Armádní generál	Generálporučík	Generálmajor	Brigádní generál	Plukovník	Podplukovník	Major	Štábní kapitán	Kapitán	Nadporučík	Poručík	Podporučík	

Ranks 1951-1952

- Armádní generál - General of the Army
- Sborový generál - Army Corps General/Lieutenant General
- Divisní generál - Divisional General
- Brigádní generál - Brigadier General

Ranks 1953-1958

- Armádní generál - General of the Army
- Generálplukovník - Colonel General
- Generálporučík - Lieutenant General
- Generálmajor - Major General



Vrchný veliteľ
brannej moci



Armádny generál



Zborový generál letectva
(od roku 1953
generálplukovník)



Divízný generál
(od roku 1953
generálporučík)
tylových služieb



Brigádny generál
(od roku 1953
generálmajor)

[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

Junior Officers

- *Podporučík* - Podporuchik
- *Poručík* - Poruchik
- *Nadporučík* - Nadporuchik
- *Kapitán* - Captain
- *Štábní kapitán* - Staff Captain (abolished 1953/1954)
- *Major* - Major
- *Podplukovník* - Podpolkovnik
- *Plukovník* - Polkovnik

Source:[1]

Vojenské hodnosti dôstojníkov
Česko-Slovenskej armády 1951 až 1958



Podporučík
spojovacieho vojska



Poručík letectva



Nadporučík
výsadkového vojska



Kapitán
ženijného vojska



Štábní kapitán
letectva (do roku 1953)



Major spojovacieho
vojska (do roku 1953)



Podplukovník
intendantstva
(do roku 1953)



Plukovník pechoty
(do roku 1953)



Major delostreleckého
vyzbrojovania (od 1953)



Podplukovník tankového
vojska (od roku 1953)



Plukovník letectva
inžinierskej a technickej
skupiny (od 1953)

[3] The rank titles in the image are in Slovak.

Army ranks (1960-1990)

Czechoslovak People's Army Source:[4]

Officers

Rank group	National rank	General/flag officers				Field/senior officers				Junior officers			Officer cadet
	No equivalent												
		Armádní generál	Generálplukovník	Generálporučík	Generálmajor	Plukovník	Podplukovník	Major	Kapitán	Nadporučík	Poručík	Podporučík	

Enlisted and Warrant officers

Rank group	Senior NCOs				Junior NCOs		Enlisted
	No equivalent						

									
<i>Nadpraporčík</i>	<i>Praporčík</i>	<i>Podpraporčík</i>	<i>Nadrotmistr</i>	<i>Rotmistr</i>	<i>Rotný</i>	<i>Četař</i>	<i>Desátník</i>	<i>Svobodník</i>	<i>Vojín</i>

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