

Hair-Male and Female

Will be clean, **well-groomed, present a professional appearance**, **allow proper wear of headgear**, helmet or chemical mask and conform to safety requirements. Will not contain excessive amounts of grooming aids (e.g. gel, mousse, pomade, and moisturizer), appear lopsided, touch either eyebrow, or end below an imaginary line across the forehead at the top of the eyebrows that is parallel to the ground. If applied, dyes, tints, bleaches and frostings must result in natural hair colors. The hair color must complement the member's complexion and skin tone. Examples of natural hair colors are brown, blonde, brunette, natural red, black or grey. Prohibited examples (not all inclusive) are burgundy, purple, orange, fluorescent or neon colors. Commander may temporarily authorize cancer patients to wear approved caps (black/tan) or maintain baldness due to a temporary medical condition (i.e., radiation/chemotherapy)

Hair-Male

Tapered appearance on both sides and the back of the head, both with and without headgear. A tapered appearance is one that when viewed from any angle outlines the member's hair so that it conforms to the shape of the head, curving inward to the natural termination point **without eccentric directional flow, twists or spiking**. A block-cut is permitted with tapered appearance. Hair will not exceed 1¼ inch in bulk, regardless of length and ¼ inch at natural termination point; allowing only closely cut or shaved hair on the back of the neck to touch the collar. Hair will not touch the ears or protrude under the front band of headgear. Cleanly shaven heads, military high-and-tight or flat-top cuts are authorized. Prohibited examples (not all inclusive) are Mohawk, mullet, cornrows, dreadlocks or etched design. Men are not authorized hair extensions.

Hair-Female

No minimum hair length to a **maximum bulk of 3 ½ inches from scalp** and **allows proper wear of headgear**. Hair will end above the bottom edge of collar and will not extend below an invisible line drawn parallel to the ground, both front to back and side to side. Bangs, or side-swiped hair will not touch either eyebrow, to include an invisible line drawn across eyebrows and parallel to the ground. When in doubt, assess correct length of hair with Airman standing in the position of attention. Exception: While wearing the Physical Training Uniform (PTU), long hair will be secured but may have loose ends and may extend below the bottom edge of the collar.

Hair accessories. If worn, black hair accessories (e.g., fabric scrunchies, hairpins, combs, clips, headbands, elastic bands, barrettes, etc.) are authorized regardless of hair color.

Locs, braids, twists, micro-braids, french braids, dutch braids and cornrows are authorized. Locs are defined as portions of hair that have been intentionally or unintentionally fused together to form a loc or locs. A braid or twist is two or more portions of interwoven hair. If adding additional hair, it must be a natural-looking color, similar to the individual's hair color. It must be conservative (moderate, being within reasonable limits; not excessive or extreme) and not present a faddish appearance. Hair must not

exceed bulk and length standards and must not extend below the bottom of the collar. Headgear must fit properly.

All locs, braids, and twists, when worn will be of uniform dimension, no wider than one inch, with natural spacing between the locs, braids, or twists and must be tightly interwoven to present a neat, professional and well-groomed appearance. When worn, multiple locs, braids, or twists shall be of uniform dimension, small in diameter (approx. ¼ inches), show no more than ¼ inch of scalp between the locs, braids or twists and must be tightly fused/interwoven to present a neat, professional appearance. A loc, or braid must continue to the end of the hair without design and following the contour of the head, and may be worn loose or in a secured style within hair standards. [Exception: Micro-braids or twists are not required to continue to the end of the hair.]

Figure 3.4. Female Hair Standards



Figure 3.6. Authorized Braids

