

This week, Fort Lauderdale plays host to thousands of sailors. Here's a crash course on the Navy for those who don't know a seaman recruit from an admiral.

# FLEET WEEK



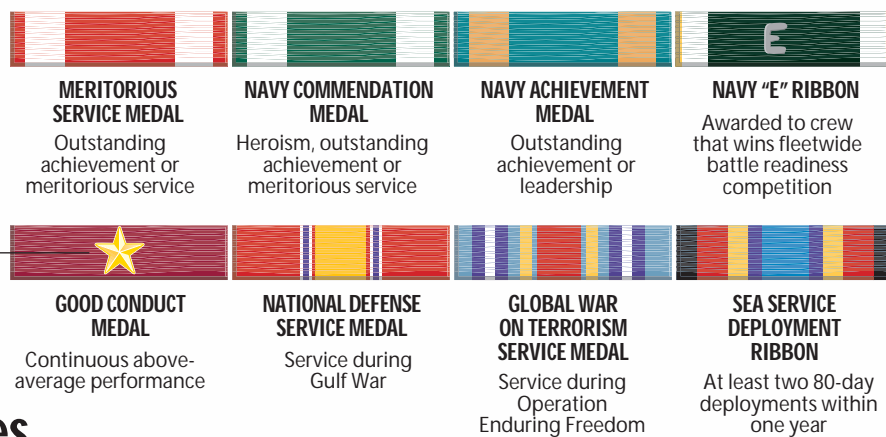
Enlisted sailor:  
Petty Officer 1st Class  
Oral Sutherland

The warfare qualification pin shows what role the wearer is trained to perform. The pin shown here is worn by enlisted surface warfare specialists.

## Know your ribbons

The colorful ribbons worn above the left breast pocket are awarded for special achievement. They may be given to an individual or to an entire unit. Here are some of the ribbons you may see during Fleet Week:

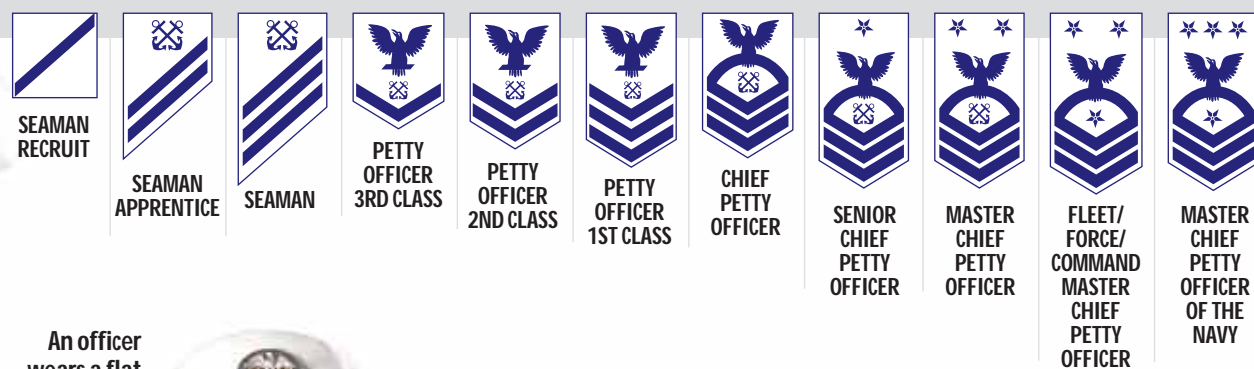
A star worn on top of a ribbon shows that the ribbon has been awarded more than once.



## Know your stripes

The Navy is divided into two classes, enlisted sailors and officers, and stripes are an instant way to tell who's who. Enlisted sailors wear their stripes on their left sleeves, and are distinguished by *rate*. Officers display their stripes on their shoulderboards, and are distinguished by *rank*.

### ENLISTED SAILORS' RATES



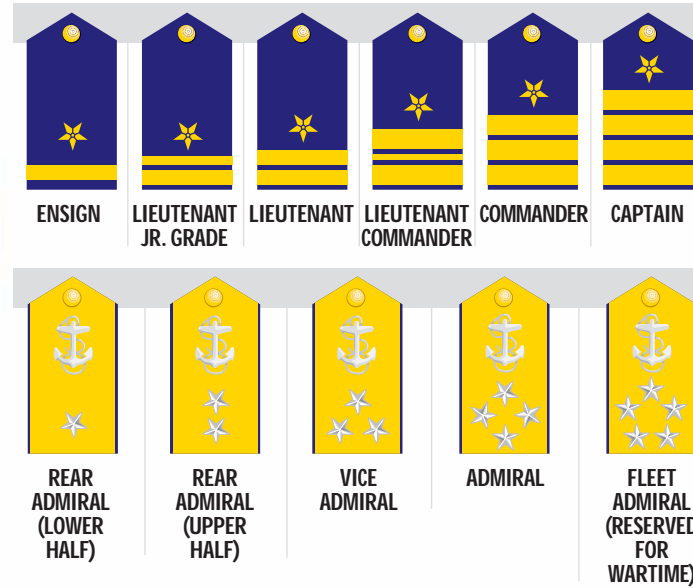
An officer wears a flat hat with brim



Officer:  
Lt. Jr. Grade  
Derek S.  
Huggins

Shoulderboard

### OFFICERS' RANKS



### Destroyer (Spruance class)

■ Length: 563 feet ■ Crew: 382  
This fast warship primarily performs anti-submarine duty. It is armed with missiles, torpedoes, guns and two Seahawk helicopters.

### Guided missile destroyer (Arleigh Burke class)

■ Length: 505-510 feet ■ Crew: 323  
This is a multimission ship that can attack submarines, ships, ground targets and aircraft. It is armed with missiles, torpedoes and guns.

### Fast combat support ship (Supply class)

■ Length: 754 feet ■ Crew: 667  
This massive supply vessel is loaded with oil, ammunition and food for all of the ships in the group. It is armed with missiles and guns.

## City at sea The carrier battle group

Aircraft carriers, the Navy's largest ships, don't travel alone. Each carrier is deployed as part of a fleet of several ships called a battle group. These groups work together to support each other and protect the carrier. Here's how a typical group may be structured:

### Frigate (Oliver Hazard Perry class)

■ Length: 445-453 feet ■ Crew: 215  
This small, tough ship primarily performs anti-submarine duty. It is armed with missiles, torpedoes and guns.

### Attack submarines (Los Angeles class)

■ Length: 360 feet ■ Crew: 134  
These stealthy, fast craft seek and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships. They are armed with missiles and torpedoes.

### Aircraft carrier (Nimitz class)

■ Length: 1,092 feet ■ Crew: 5,680  
This floating airport is the key component in any battle group. Carriers can launch and support a variety of aircraft, waging full-scale war against targets on the sea and on land. In addition to the 85 planes onboard a fully-loaded carrier, they also are armed with missiles and guns.

### Guided missile cruisers (Ticonderoga class)

■ Length: 567 feet ■ Crew: 364  
This is a multimission ship that can attack submarines, ships, ground targets and aircraft. It is armed with missiles, torpedoes and guns.