

ARMY CODES AND CREEDS

[Army Doctrine Publication](https://usacac.army.mil/sites/default/files/misc/doctrine/CDG/cdg_resources/manuals/adp/ADP%206-22.pdf) (ADP 6-22): Foundation for Leadership Ethics and Honor:
https://usacac.army.mil/sites/default/files/misc/doctrine/CDG/cdg_resources/manuals/adp/ADP%206-22.pdf)

West Point Cadet Honor Code:

A Cadet will not lie, cheat, steal, or tolerate those who do.

West Point Cadet Creed:

1. I am committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country.
2. I am an inspiring member of the Army Profession, dedicated to serve and earn the trust of the American People.
3. It is my duty to maintain the honor of the Corps.
4. I will live above the common level of life and have the courage to choose the harder right over the easier wrong.
5. I will live with honor and integrity, scorn injustice, and always confront substandard behavior.
6. I will persevere through adversity and recover from failure.
7. I will embrace the warrior ethos and pursue excellence in everything I do.
8. I am a future officer and member of the Long Gray Line

The JROTC Cadet Creed

- A. I am an Army JROTC Cadet.
- B. I will always conduct myself to bring credit to my family, country, school, and the corps of cadets.
- C. I am loyal and patriotic. I am the future of the United States of America.
- D. I do not lie, cheat, or steal and will always be accountable for my actions and deeds.
- E. I will always practice good citizenship and patriotism.
- F. I will work hard to improve my mind and strengthen my body.
- G. I will seek the mantle of leadership and stand prepared to uphold the Constitution and the American way of life.
- H. May God grant me the strength to always live by this creed.

The JROTC Mission:

The mission of JROTC is to motivate young people to be better citizens. We do this by instilling leadership skills, offering a rich learning environment, and by giving cadets the opportunities they need to realize their full potential. We achieve this by facilitating engaging classroom learning using our JROTC curriculum and offering numerous and exciting co-curricular activities for cadets to be placed in a leadership situation by which they can learn and grow.

ROTC CADET CREED:

1. I am an Army Cadet.
2. Soon I will take an oath and become an Army Officer committed to defending the values, which make this nation great.
3. HONOR is my touchstone. I understand MISSION first and PEOPLE always.
4. I am the PAST: the spirit of those WARRIORS who have made the final sacrifice.
5. I am the PRESENT: the scholar and apprentice soldier enhancing my skills in the science of warfare and the art of Leadership.
6. But, above all, I am the FUTURE: the future WARRIOR LEADER of the United States Army.
7. May God give me the compassion and judgment to lead and the gallantry to WIN.
8. I WILL do my duty.

Army Values

(<https://www.army.mil/values/>):

- (1) **Loyalty:** Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, and other soldiers.
- (2) **Duty:** Fulfill your obligations.
- (3) **Respect:** Treat people as they should be treated.
- (4) **Selfless Service:** Put the welfare of the Nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own.
- (5) **Honor:** Live up to all the Army Values.
- (6) **Integrity:** Do what's right, legally and morally.
- (7) **Personal Courage:** Face fear, danger, or adversity (physical and moral).

SOLDIER'S CREED

I AM AN AMERICAN SOLDIER.

I am a warrior and a member of a team

I serve the people of the United States and live the army values.

I WILL ALWAYS PLACE THE MISSION FIRST.

I WILL NEVER ACCEPT DEFEAT.

I WILL NEVER QUIT.

I WILL NEVER LEAVE A FALLEN COMRADE.

I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills.

I always maintain my arms, my equipment, and myself.

I am an expert and I am a professional.

I stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.

I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.

I AM AN AMERICAN SOLDIER.

Definition of an Officer (USCC Cir 351-2):

Officership is the practice of being a commissioned Army Officer. Officers swear an oath of loyalty and service to the Constitution and serve at the pleasure of the President as Commander-in-Chief. They are accountable for the state of the Army and the accomplishment of its missions. Officers apply discretionary judgment and bear ultimate moral responsibility for their decisions. Their commission imposes total accountability and unlimited liability. Essential to officership is a unique, shared self-concept consisting of four identities - warrior, servant of the nation, member of a profession, and leader of character. Grounded in Army values, this shared self-concept inspires and shapes the officer and the Army Officer Corps.

Honorable Living (ADP 6-22c1, p.2-4, para 2-10)

Living honorably, in line with the Army Values, sets an example for every member of the organization and contributes to an organization's positive climate and morale. How leaders conduct themselves and meet their obligations to the mission, other people, and the organization defines them as people and leaders.

The Definition of Lying. (C) (USCC Cir 351-2)

Deliberately deceiving another by communicating an untruth through any direct form of communication to include the telling of a partial truth or using partial information or ambiguous language with the intent to deceive or mislead.

Bottom Line: Absolute Truthfulness in Oral and Written Statements on and off duty. In the Army, an Officer's word is held as his bond.

The Definition of Cheating. (C) (USCC Cir 351-2)

Acting out of self-interest or assisting another to do so with the intent to gain or to give an unfair advantage.

Bottom Line: Complete fairness in human relations and scholarship.

The Definition of Stealing. (C) (USCC Cir 351-2)

To wrongfully take, obtain, or withhold, by any means, from the possession of the owner or any other person, any money, personal property, article, or service of value of any kind, with intent to:

- permanently deprive or defraud another person of the use and benefit of property or
- to appropriate it to either their own use or the use of any person other than the owner

Bottom Line: If it is not yours and the owner does not intend for you to have it, that's stealing. Respect people and their property.

Three Rules of Thumb: Decision-Making. (WP Honor Code) (USCC Cir 351-2)

1. Does this action attempt to deceive anyone or allow anyone to be deceived?
2. Does this action gain or allow the gain of privilege or advantage to which I, or someone else would not otherwise be entitled?
3. Would I be dissatisfied by the outcome if I were on the receiving end of this action?

Army Oaths

Oath of Enlistment

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God.

Oath of Office for commissioned officers and DA Civilians

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

The Army Ethic (ADP 6-22c1): The *Army ethic* is the set of enduring moral principles, values, beliefs, and laws that guide the Army profession and create the culture of trust essential to Army professionals in the conduct of missions, performance of duty, and all aspects of life.

What is a leader of character? (USCC Cir 351-2)

A leader of character seeks to discover the truth, decide what is right, and demonstrate the courage and commitment to act accordingly.

Non-Toleration Definition. (C) (USCC Cir 351-2)

Any cadet who witnesses, commits, or knows of an action that is inconsistent with the ethical standards of the Academy (thus not necessarily only Honor Code violations) will take action to amend the situation.

Bottom Line: The personal courage to uphold the ethical standards within the profession of arms.

ARMY CULTURE:

Culture consists of the foundational values, beliefs, and behaviors that drive an organization's social environment, and it plays a vital role in mission accomplishment. Culture changes constantly to remain in alignment with an organization's strategy and mission - no organization has the same culture it did a generation ago. In the 21st century, the question for leaders is not whether culture should change, but **how** it should change. In the modern era, culture is a rapid innovation area.

(<https://people.army.mil/overview-2/strategic-approach-2/army-culture/>)

Army culture is grounded in our values of **Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage**. These values are time-tested and provide our culture with a rock-solid foundation. As an American institution, however, we face many of the same culture challenges as the rest of our Nation: sexual assault, sexual harassment, discrimination, extremism, and suicide. If permitted to persist, these behaviors can break trust within Army teams – from squads to major commands. They affect team cohesion as well.

(<https://people.army.mil/overview-2/strategic-approach-2/army-culture/>)

Army Professional's Respect (ADP 6-22c1, p.1-10, para 1-61):

Army professionals recognize the intrinsic dignity and worth of all people and treat them with respect.

Army Professional's Courage (ADP 6-22c1, p.1-10, para 1-62):

Army professionals lead by example and demonstrate courage by doing what is ethical despite risk, uncertainty, and fear; they candidly express their professional judgment to subordinates, peers, and superiors.

VALUES AND BELIEFS (ADP 6-22c1, p.2-6, para 2-14-16)

Values and beliefs affect how people think and act. People join the Army from a society with diverse personal values and beliefs respected within the standards of legal and ethical behavior. Variation in upbringing, culture, religious belief, and tradition is reflected among those who choose to serve in the Army. Such diversity provides many benefits for a force globally engaged around the world. Good leaders value this diversity of outlook and experience and must treat all individuals with the inherent dignity and respect due every person. All leaders have the critical responsibility to ensure that subordinates adhere to the Army Values as well as standards consistent with the United States Constitution, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and Army rules and regulations.

The United States Constitution, which all Soldiers and DA Civilians swear to uphold and defend, reflects the Nation's values and is the legal foundation for both our government and the rights of individuals. At times, tensions can arise between individual beliefs protected by the Bill of Rights and the provisions of the Uniform Code of Military Justice or other Army rules and regulations. If this tension arises, it often centers on issues of religious belief, which while protected by the Constitution in general, could conflict with a specific military rule or regulation. If such tension arises, commanders will lead their organizations consistent with the Army Values while making decisions pursuant to DOD and Army policies.

Values and beliefs create a foundation for ethical conduct. Adhering to the Army Values is essential to upholding high ethical standards of behavior. Unethical behavior quickly destroys organizational morale and cohesion—it undermines the trust and confidence essential to teamwork and mission accomplishment. Consistently doing the right thing for the right reasons forges strong character in individuals and expands to create a culture of trust throughout the organization.

Counterproductive Leadership (ADP 6-22, p. 8-7, Para 8-46)

8-46. Counterproductive leadership is the demonstration of leader behaviors that violate one or more of the Army's core leader competencies or Army Values, preventing a climate conducive to mission accomplishment.