

A Summary of Army Hairstyle Changes – Sep 2014

Previous (31 March 2014):

New (September 2014):

Temporary two-strand twists not authorized.	Temporary two-strand twists authorized.
Size of braids or cornrows must be small in diameter (approximately 1/4 inch)	Size of braids, cornrows, and twists may be no more than 1/2 inch
Braids and cornrows must be uniform design and show no more than 1/8 inch of scalp between the braids	All braids, cornrows, and twists must be approximately the same size with same general spacing between them
Ends secured using inconspicuous rubber bands	Must be secured inconspicuously (removes requirement for rubber band use)
Braids must start at the front of head and go straight back	Braids, cornrows, and twists (when worn against the scalp) must follow the natural direction of the hair when worn back, which is either in general straight lines following the shape of the head or flowing with the natural direction of the hair when worn back with one primary part of the hair (no sharply curved lines or zigzag lines)
Dreadlocks are not authorized and are defined as any matted, twisted or locked coils or ropes of hair (or extensions). Braids or cornrows that are unkempt or matted are considered dreadlocks and are not authorized.	Dreadlocks or locks are not authorized and are defined as any permanently twisted, or locked coils or ropes of hair (or extension) or hair tangled closely together.
Bun size (measured from the scalp) may not exceed 3 inches or be wider than the head. The bulk of hair may not exceed 2 inches.	Bun size (measured from the scalp) may not exceed 3 1/2 inches or be wider than the head. The bulk of hair may not exceed 2 inches.
Term “neat” is not in the glossary	Term “neat” is defined in the glossary as “orderly and tidy in appearance.”
Term “conservative” is defined in the glossary as “traditional in style.”	Term “conservative” is defined in the glossary as “conventional, traditional, and moderate in style and appearance; not extreme, excessive, faddish, or intense.”
Pony tails may be worn during physical training in physical fitness uniforms.	Pony tails may be worn during physical training in physical fitness uniforms. Authorized hairstyles (such as braids and twists) may also be worn in a pony tail using the same guidance.
Wigs are authorized and must look natural and conform to the uniform regulation.	Wigs are authorized and must look natural and conform to the uniform regulation. Wigs may not be worn to cover up unauthorized hairstyles.