



United States Air Force

Honor Guard Drill Team

2013 Media Kit



About Us

A standard Drill Team performance features a professionally choreographed sequence of show-stopping weapon maneuvers, precise tosses, complex weapon exchanges, and a walk through the gauntlet of spinning weapons. The Drill Team also provides an incredible performance centered on a stationary drill commander, flanked by four team members who simultaneously hurl their 11-pound weapons over and around the commander performing a sequence of events unmatched by any other professional military drill team.

Throughout the years, the Drill Team has worked with the Air Force Recruiting Service to provide presence in hundreds of locations. The team tours various Air Force bases and community events across the globe, as well as providing performances to thousands visiting the Nation's Capital at various national monuments. The Drill Team also serves as the lead office for all Air Force Honor Guard recruiting.

Mission

The Drill Team promotes the Air Force mission by showcasing drill performances at public and military venues to recruit, retain and inspire Airmen. They support the Air Force Recruiting Service as the official "Ambassadors in Blue."

Vision

Preserving the Air Force heritage as the face of the Air Force, the Drill Team is renowned for precision and is the premier choice to inspire current and future Airmen worldwide.

Plan

In all they do, the Drill Team personifies the integrity, discipline, teamwork and professionalism of every Airman and every Air Force mission.



Media Contact

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Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team

TRAINING

Drill Team training is an eight-week course that teaches the fundamentals of precision drill. As a matter of heritage, technical drill maneuvers are not written in a manual but passed from one generation of the Drill Team to another. All Honor Guard technical sergeants and below must complete Drill Team training and be evaluated in front of the Honor Guard leadership and their peers to be considered for membership with the team. The commander and the chief of the Drill Team are hand selected by the Honor Guard commander. To maintain continuity of drill proficiency, all Drill Team members serve a minimum of two years once assigned to the team.

MEMBERS

Drill Team members are selected from the within the Honor Guard. The Drill Team members represent the best of each individual ceremonial flight within the Honor Guard. All members have risen to the challenge of the Drill Team and developed the discipline required to be a member of this elite performance unit. The Drill Team is open to both men and women of the ceremonial guard.

HISTORY

The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard originated in 1948 when Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force, directed the creation of an elite ceremonial unit. The ceremonial unit was activated within the 1100th Air Police Squadron at Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C., with the responsibility of maintaining an Air Force ceremonial capability in the National Capital Region. The Honor Guard officially became a separate squadron in 1972, and the unit remains at the base now known as Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C.

The Honor Guard has evolved into a selectively manned unit with more than 210 ceremonial guardsmen and support personnel. Organizationally, the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard consists of four ceremonial flights, made up of Colors, Bearers, Firing Party and Parade Flight qualified personnel. The Honor Guard also operates the U.S. Air Force Drill Team.

Together, the ceremonial flights perform an average of 10 ceremonies per day, and more than 2,500 ceremonies annually.





Drill Team Links and FAQs

LINKS

Photos

<http://www.honorguard.af.mil/photos/mediagallery.asp>

Videos

[USAF Honor Guard on YouTube](#)

[USAF Honor Guard on DVIDS](#)

Fact Sheets

[11 Wing Fact Sheet](#)

Bios

Lt. Col. Mark Walsh

Honor Guard Commander

[1st. Lt. Michael Lemorie](#)

Drill Team Commander

[Master Sgt. Whitefield Jack](#)

Drill Team Superintendent



FAQs

How many Airmen are on the Drill Team? 25 Airmen

How long does one typically serve on the Drill Team? The goal is to have each member serve a two-year commitment to the team.

How often does the Drill Team perform? On average, the Drill Team performs between 100-150 times a year, at various locations worldwide.

How long does it take to get this good? On average, members perform their first drill and are deemed "performance ready" after six months of training.

How much time do you spend practicing? Typically, the Drill Team trains five days a week for 8-10 hours per day. Many individuals put in a considerable amount of "after hours" training.

How can I be on the Drill Team? First you must be an Active Duty member of the Air Force and selected to be a member of the Honor Guard. After completing the Honor Guard eight-week technical training school you'll be given opportunities to apply for and "try-out" for the Drill Team.