

# What are the Branches of the Military?

Created by Marie @ The Homeschool Daily



U.S. Department of Defense

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for military operations and is led by the Secretary of Defense who is a civilian appointed by the President. Each branch is headed by a military 4-star general or admiral. These leaders make up the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



The Pentagon  
is the  
headquarters  
of the United  
States  
Department of  
Defense (DoD).





The armed forces of the United States include the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard. The Army National Guard and the Air National Guard are reserve components of their services and operate in part under state authority.



# Army

The Army is the largest branch of the military. It conducts combat missions on land. The Army was first created in 1775 to fight against the British in the American Revolution. It is the oldest branch of the military. Infantry or foot soldiers use guns and tanks to fight against enemies in war.



# Navy

The Navy is an armed force that protects and secures the seas. The U.S. Navy is the world's largest navy in terms of manpower and fleet size. The Navy's fleet includes aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, frigates, and nuclear submarines. Aircraft carriers are like airports at sea.





# Marine Corps

The Marine Corps (USMC) is a specialized division of the Navy.

They conduct amphibious land, sea, and air missions that support other branches of the military. The Marine Corps is often considered the toughest branch of the military both physically and mentally. Its rigorous basic training, also known as boot camp, lasts 13 weeks.



# Coast Guard

The Coast Guard is a military branch that protects the maritime environment and national security. Their missions include search and rescue, law enforcement, coastal defense, and protecting marine resources. The Coast Guard enforces U.S. and international laws, regulates and inspects vessels, and responds to incidents.



# Air Force

The Air Force is a military branch that specializes in aerial warfare and is responsible for our country's air power. The Air Force was originally part of the US Army but became a separate branch in 1947. The air force's aircraft includes fighters, bombers, helicopters, transport planes, and reconnaissance craft. Fighter jets are designed to fly fast and change direction quickly. They carry weapons like missiles and machine guns.





# Space Force

The Space Force is a branch of the military that protects U.S. interests in space. It is a specialized division of the Air Force. They develop technology and keep satellites safe and operational. The Space Force was established in 2019 as the first new branch of the armed services in 73 years. Its creation was imperative to ensure our future security.



# Let's Review

The United States Department of Defense has 6 distinct branches of the military. These are the following branches: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force, and Space Force. Every year we celebrate Armed Forces Day in May.







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♥ Marie

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