

How to Wear the Band Uniform

The band uniform worn at football games, parades, and marching contests consists of a jacket, pants (what is termed a "bib"), hat (all property of NEISD), black shoes, and black socks (provided by the band student). A band t-shirt and light-weight shorts must be worn under the uniform.

While in uniform, students must wear NO makeup, NO jewelry other than senior rings, and NO nail polish. Please encourage your student to abide by these policies. The quartermasters will demonstrate the proper procedure for hanging uniforms when the uniform is assigned.

Each student is provided with a **GARMENT BAG**. The student's name and identification information is listed on the front label. The pants and jacket should be on the provided suit hanger and kept in the bag. The gloves, gauntlets and mirror should be placed inside the outside zippered compartment.

DO NOT store your shoes in your garment bag. This bag is not designed to support the weight of shoes and may rip at the seams. Please keep your shoes separate in your duffle bag or in your band locker.

The **MARCHING JACKET** hangs smoothly over the (bib). It should be zipped up so it will hang without wrinkles and will not slide off the hanger.

PANTS (or bibs) are stored properly with the legs creased and hanging over the suit hanger. The seams on the inside and outside of the pants should be in the center of the hanger. The pants are hung and stored so that no wrinkles appear. (Our new suit hangers lock the pants in place preventing them from sliding off the hanger.)

Each student will be assigned a pair of **GAUNTLETS**. Your gauntlets are sized for you. Please return them to your uniform bag in the zippered compartment.

Black **GLOVES** are stored in the zippered pocket of the uniform bag. Some students will need to cut off the tips of the gloves. The edges of the glove will then need to be coated with a product called FRAY CHECK to ensure that the material does not unravel. This product may be purchased at a craft store.

Students wear their **MARCHING SHOES** whenever they are in uniform. The shoes should have the student's initials written on the inside of the shoes. Shoes must be cleaned prior to each performance. (Hint: wet wipes are easy and work great!)

Students are required to furnish their own **BLACK SOCKS**. These do not need to be stored inside the garment bag, but must always be worn with marching shoes. Please change out your black socks each time the uniform is worn! Keep a spare pair of clean socks in the zippered pocket (for that one time that they get left at home).

Band **SHOW-SHIRTS** are worn to each event and under the jacket when in uniform. The t-shirts should be cleaned between each use. Wind shorts or light type shorts are worn under the pants (bibs). Underarmor shorts are a good option.

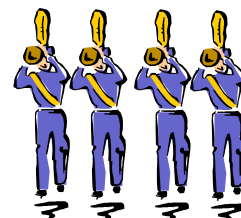
SHAKOS (hats) are stored between uses inside their box. Students will pick up their assigned (numbered) shako and uniform prior to each event. **ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD** items should be carried in the shako box.

A "C" **MIRROR** will be issued to each student with their name on it at designated games/events. Chaperones will be responsible for the distribution of **PLUMES** at each event.

Uniform Moms:

Julie Wauters 210-416-0547

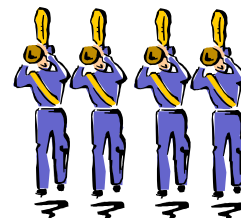
Shari Killebrew 210-705-4315



Uniform Reminders—Cleaning and Hemming

Instructions for CLEANING of the marching jackets and bibs:

Marching jackets and bibs should be machine washed at home after every game/marching competition and returned promptly to the band hall. Uniforms are to be kept in the band hall on the designated grade level rank.



- Avoid washing bib pants and jackets together.
- Wash in cold water only.
- Use only non-chlorine detergent.
- Do not use liquid fabric softener.
- Jackets and bib pants are made of completely washable polyester-gabardine.
- Machine wash and dry on gentle/knit cycle, but do not overload machines.
- If a stain does occur, sponge with water or treat with an appropriate product before it has time to set and before laundering. You may use “Spray and Wash” and other Non-chlorine stain removers when washing.
- Dry garments completely before storing.
- Do not use a hot dryer setting.
- Use a cool dryer setting. When dried on a cool setting, uniforms will require very little touch up.
- Remove them from the dryer and place on a hanger immediately.
- Touch up pressing on pants may be desired occasionally.

Instructions for hemming and pressing the marching jacket and pants:

The original length of the pants for all uniforms is very generous so that a wide range of heights can be accommodated. The sleeve length and pant length is **NOT** a matter of personal taste. Our new uniforms are easily altered with snaps at the side seams on the pants and jackets. **NEVER CUT** the pants or the jacket even though you may have a bulky hem. Also, please take a look at the Churchill Band Website at www.churchillbpa.org and you will see some photos that will give you a visual of how the uniform pants and sleeves should look. Choose Uniform Guidelines on the website.

HEMMING:

- Try pants on.
- Adjust the shoulder straps for proper crotch position (not too tight or baggy)
- Check hem length: Hem is to just touch the top of the shoe (there should be **NO BREAK** or **“CREASE”** in the front of the pant leg).
- The pants will have a “high water” appearance.
- **DO NOT CUT ANY FABRIC** when adjusting the hem. **DO NOT OPEN** any seams.
- On the really deep hems (when it is impossible for the fabric to lay flat) tack securely at the two seams (where the snaps are). You have a good inch to sew a very strong tacking. You will have 2 tackings per leg. This, combined with a **GOOD** pressing, should result in a nice looking hem.
- Use of iron-on hem tape, safety pins or hem adhesives is not allowed.
- Deep hems are acceptable.
- Do not double or triple the thickness of the hem. We need a smooth finished look.
- Refer to the photo on the Band website.
- Please remind your student to put the pants on with care so they don’t “unsnap” the pants.

PRESSING:

- Place a dampened cloth with a 50/50 white vinegar and water solution to help set a new hem crease or remove an old one.
- **DO NOT** press on high heat.
- **DO NOT** press over the snap area
- **HIGH HEAT** will **MELT** the snap imprint onto the outside of the garment.
- **Pressing is paramount to the crisp appearance of the pants.**