

When conducting field or survival training; cadets are authorized to wear the Cadet Field Training Uniform, also commonly known as combats, OD's (Olive Drabs), Fatigues, etc. IT IS NOT MANDATORY FOR ANY CADET TO PURCHASE THIS UNIFORM.

Combats Buying Guide

Although combats are not supplied by the Canadian Forces, they are still recognized as a uniform and are subject to certain rules. The policies of the Cadet program do not allow civilian clothing to be worn in combination with the cadet uniform (blue dress uniform or combats). This rule is commonly stated as the "All or nothing rule". This illustrated guide is to help the cadet (and their parents) know what is required, what is extra, what price is common and expected for the items, and where one might purchase them.

Mandatory Items	
<p>Headdress</p> <p>While wearing combats the following headdress allowed; Issued Blue Toque, Beige Cadet Tilley Hat(aka wide brimmed hat), Blue Beret or Issued Wedge. What is most common and recommended for wear is the blue toque and Tilley hat that is typically issued at summer camp. The blue beret is typically worn by more senior cadets as an identifier. While the wedge is technically approved in combats, it is a part of the dress uniform and is not recommended to bring in case of being stained, lost or torn.</p>	
<p>Jacket</p> <p>The Jacket is worn as a second layer above a dark navy blue t-shirt (such as the one issued). It is a single thin layer with buttons on the front, and draw strings at the bottom and the mid section. This item can typically be found for under \$20 each. Although it is referred to as a jacket this is the main layer of combats and is typically not removed unless undergoing high physical stress and activity.</p>	

<p>Pants</p> <p>The Pants are made of the same material as the jacket, and are fastened with a single button. There often are draw strings at the ankles for “blousing” the pants around the tops of the boots. This item, like the jacket can typically be found for less than \$20 each.</p>	
<p>Combat Boots</p> <p>Combat Boots are black leather and can be bought in a variety of forms, that can include a thicker all weather liner, steel/composite plate, etc, although those features may affect the price. It is common to find them well used in a surplus store, and if one is looking to save some money is recommended to buy them used, as the boots are the most expensive mandatory part of the combat uniform. Boots vary from \$30 - \$70. You may find some that are more expensive, but it is recommended to search elsewhere.</p>	
<p>Additional Items</p> <p>Dark Navy Blue t-shirt – Can be purchased at Wal-mart or any other discount retail store.</p> <p>Belts – Any belt is satisfactory, but Olive or Camo belts can be purchased at a surplus store for \$20 or under.</p> <p>Socks- It is recommended to use a 2 sock system. Thin Cotton sock underneath to wick away moisture and this wool socks ovetop to insulate and keep warm.</p> <p>Rank Slip-ons – As it is a recognized uniform, cadets are to wear their rank slip-ons, on the shoulder epaulets.</p> <p>Gloves – In colder weather cadets are required to bring gloves to activities. Once again, any gloves can be worn, but if desired, olive green gloves may be purchased at a surplus store.</p>	

For the Mandatory part of combats, it is easy to find these items as “bundles” in some surplus stores, and many of these items range from new to slightly used, to heavily used. For the entire purchase one should not have to pay more than \$100-\$130 for all items.

Below are some items that are not mandatory, but are recommended as part of the uniform.

Recommended	
<p>3 Season Jacket</p> <p>Given the nature of Alberta weather, the thin combat jacket is typically not warm enough to brave the elements. This Jacket is made with a thicker rougher material and is great for milder winter weather, spring and fall. Due to the lack of neck and head protection, this Jacket is not suited for harsher winter weather unless it is combined with a Shemagh/Scarf and toque. This Jacket highly varies in price.</p>	
<p>Winter Parka</p> <p>This Winter Jacket is the ultimate in cold weather protection and is an alternative to the 3 season jacket. It has a wire frame detachable hood that can bend around the face, fire and water resistant pockets, and can brave even the harshest of winter weathers. This Jacket, much like the 3 season jacket, varies highly in price, but one can expect to pay extra for this.</p>	
<p>Shemagh</p> <p>The Shemagh (much like a scarf) is a great addition for windier or colder weather, and in milder weather can sometimes be just enough to offset the elements without having to upgrade to the larger beefier jacket. It can be purchased in either Olive Drab or Green Camo Colours. (NO desert colors!). This item is often around \$15.</p>	

As well, if the Cadet wishes to embody his/her inner survivor man/woman there are some additional items that are common in the field. These items are by no means mandatory, and serve no safety, health or wellbeing purpose, they are simply nifty and useful. The ones listed here are only a few of the most common and useful items, there are dozens if not hundreds of other items that can be purchased.

Optional	
<p>Sweater</p> <p>Although this does provide warmth, it is unnecessary while the cadets are in possession of a jacket. Additionally this sweater is intended to be worn as an insulating layer in between the combat jacket and t-shirt. This item varies upward of \$15</p>	
<p>Ruck Sack</p> <p>The Ruck Sack is a extremely useful bag, that comes complete with two vertical straps attached to the bottom frame to attach sleeping bags, air mattresses, etc. It also contains a large horizontal waist strap with clip. As buyers beware, ensure when buying these they have all 3 straps, as well as the shoulder straps as most often they will be used, and occasionally be missing some parts. This item varies in price but is often upwards of \$30</p>	
<p>Field Notepad</p> <p>The Field notepad is a great tool, it is a water resistant zippered cover for a notebook (sometimes sold separately), complete with outer pen/pencil slots, additional pouches etc. As this is not a warm piece of clothing, the cadet can feel free to purchase a variety of colors and style (Olive, Camo, Desert Camo, etc). For both cover and pad, this item should not cost over \$25</p>	

Final Notes

It is important to remember that while it is required to wear the complete uniform when worn, wearing the Cadet Field Training Uniform is completely optional. The program is free by design and parents/cadets should not be pressured into purchasing any of these things.

Additionally most jackets will come with a green Canadian flag stitched on the shoulder. This is to symbolize that the wearer is a serving member of the Canadian Forces, as Combats were a former CF uniform. Cadets are NOT to wear these flags, so any stitched flag badges shall be removed prior to wearing on a cadet activity.

Some locations that may sell Combats

Sebarms Guns and Gear

10130-156 st Edmonton. Phone Number: (587) 520-0727

<http://www.sebarms.com>

Drop Zone Tactical Military Clothing & Equipment

4915-68 ave Edmonton. Phone Number: 1 (855) 464-1333

<http://www.dropzonetactical.com/contact.php>

Supply Sergeant

West Edmonton Mall, 2nd Floor. Phone Number 780 (444)-1540

<http://www.supplysergeant.ca>

NOTE: This location is well known to being one of the more expensive locations with less cadet friendly items. It is recommended to use this as a last option

CQMS Military Surplus

9 Railway Ave, Enilda Alberta. Phone Number (780) 523-5311

<http://cgmsltd.com>

NOTE: This location was formally known as the Morinville CEL Surplus Store, and in late 2012 was shut down and moved to its new location. It has an excellent relation with cadets and, is highly worth the

drive. Due to its odd hours, out of the way location, and recent change in location it is still recommended to call ahead.