

Swab Rules

Fourth classmen must:

1. Answer at all times to the name of "Swabs".
2. At all times show due respect to their seniors, always use "Sir" to officers and upper classmen.
3. Obey all orders promptly and thoroughly, and report back from all details.
4. Preserve a neat and tidy appearance and maintain a military brace at all times.
5. Keep under the lights in the corridors and keep on the outside of all ladders. Keep on the inboard side of the corridor in the new wing.
6. Keep away from the backs of chairs in the mess hall.
7. Move on the double at all times and cut all corners squarely.
8. Remain seated in the Wardroom for three minutes after "Leave at will" is given.
9. Make way for upperclassmen at the canteen, post office, bulletin boards, and hatches.
10. Follow the chain of command.
11. Salute all upperclassmen and classmates when off the reservation; learn rules for salutes.
12. Attend, and drag to, all dances to which invited; and be signed in at all formal dances by 2115.
13. Learn all songs and yells.
14. Have the correct time at all times.
15. Learn these rules immediately.

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EXPLANATION OF SWAB RULES

1. Self explanatory.
2. Sir is a sign of respect for seniors.
3. When you are assigned a detail it is to be carried out immediately, and upon completing the detail, report is to be made to the man assigning it.
4. The military is always in the eyes of the public, and you in your uniform represent yourself, the Academy, and the Coast Guard.
5. Fourth classmen will follow this rule at all times including liberty hours, study hours and when on sick report. In the east wing, fourth classmen will keep to the inboard of all corridors.
6. Emily Post says that you should not lean back in your chair at the table. To help you to keep this in mind you will sit on the front 3 inches of your chair in the Wardroom.
7. Fourth Classmen have many duties which must be done quickly and efficiently. Double timing will not be done during study hour, but corners will be squared at all times. No steps are to be skipped on the ladders.
8. This is to avoid congestion at the doors. As an upperclassman, you will appreciate this privilege.
9. If you see any of your classmates standing in the way of an officer or upperclassman, shout "Gangway" (for officers) or "Make way" (for upperclassmen) so they will step aside.
10. If you have a question or a problem, first see a third classman in your squad, then your squad leader, then your Platoon Commander, then your Company Commander, then your Company Officer.
11. Officers will be saluted whether on or off the reservation. All cadets will be saluted when off the reservation.
12. Self-explanatory.
13. Since the Academy athletic teams must have the support of the corps, and a fourth-classman needs to develop a strong voice, you will be required to know the songs and yells and will use them at athletic events.
14. The Academy, as well as the service, is run on a tight schedule, and not knowing the time is not a reason for missing any event.
15. Fourth Classmen MUST be ready to be quizzed on these at ANY time.

SWAB DON'TS

Fourth classmen must not:

1. Discuss interclass or Academy affairs outside the reservation.
2. Give excuses.
3. Grease upperclassmen.
4. Fraternize with enlisted personnel.
5. Loiter on reservation, barracks, canteen, or Post Office.
6. Cut across the quadrangle or through the heads in the new wing.
7. Go through the corridor by the Commandant of Cadet's office or the OD's office except when on orderly duty.
8. Talk in corridors.

EXPLANATION OF SWAB DON'TS

1. You are to learn to bear your own problems. Yours may be the saddest story, but **DO NOT** trouble people outside the reservation with it.
2. There is no excuse for not carrying out your duties. No one will assign you to an impossible task.
3. Do not expect or attempt to obtain favors from your seniors. You are measured by what you yourself accomplish with your own labors, and not by what others do for you. In the long run you will lose far more than you might gain.
4. Some day you may have to command them and it will be difficult if you have been too friendly.
5. You are no "Joe College", but a cadet and a gentleman. You must act the part.
6. The quadrangle is to be used by the fourth class for formations only. No "optional" formations will be held in the head.
7. Fourth classmen moving through these corridors cause congestion.

"Time is everything."

Nelson