Haircuts Inspection Standards

Cadet haircuts must conform to the following standards: Hair must be kept neat, clean, and well groomed. The hair above the ear and around the neck shall be tapered from the lower natural hairline starting at 1/8" gradually fading to 1/2" on the upper back and sides, to blend with the hairstyle. Hair will be no longer than 3 inches and may not fall over the ears, collar, or extend below the eyebrows when headgear is removed, nor show under the front edge of headgear, nor interfere with the proper wearing of the headgear.

The bulk of the hair shall not exceed 2". Bulk is defined as the distance that the mass of hair protrudes from the scalp. Hair coloring must be natural and may not be dyed or highlighted. Faddish styles and outrageous multicolored hair are not authorized. The unique quality and texture of curled, waved, and straight hair are recognized, and in some cases the taper at the back of the neck may be difficult to attain. In those cases, hair must present a graduated appearance, and may combine the taper with a line at the back of the neck. One (cut, clipped, or shaved) natural, narrow, fore and aft part is authorized. Varying hairstyles, including afros, are permitted, if these styles meet the criteria of maximum length and bulk, tapered neck and sides, and do not interfere with properly worn military headgear.

Plaited or braided hair shall not be worn. Sideburns need to be neatly trimmed and tailored in the same manner as the haircut. Sideburns may not extend below a point level with the middle of the ear, shall be even width (not flared), and shall end with a clean shaved horizontal line.

Haircuts must conform to the following standards:
- Keep hair neat, clean and well groomed.
- Hair on the side should not touch the ears.
- Hair on the back of the neck must not touch the collar.
- Hair on the sides and back from the lower natural hairline will fade from a base length of 1/8" to 1/2" on the upper side and back.
- Hair shall gradually fade from 1/2" on upper back and sides to the top. There will be no lines or extreme designs.
- Hair on the top shall be no longer than 3" and may not fall over the ears, collar, or extend below the eyebrows when headgear is removed.
- Hair on top shall not exceed 2" in bulk.
- Extreme or fad style haircuts or hairstyles are not authorized.
- Lines or designs will not be cut into the hair or scalp.