

HAIR

Do not cut your hair to VMI standards prior to matriculation. Arriving with a conservative haircut, however, is encouraged. The VMI barbershop will take care of your first cadet haircut. Some new cadets donate their hair if it is at least 8 inches long to Locks of Love or other similar charities. Let your VMI barber know if you want to donate your hair.

PACKING

Each cadet is allowed one piece of luggage not larger than 31x17x13. All smaller luggage pieces/stored belongings must fit inside the large piece of luggage since there is limited storage space for luggage after unpacking available in the trunk room located in the concourse area of the barracks. It is recommended that the luggage be lockable. Sensitive and expensive items should not be stored in the barracks trunk room. VMI is not responsible for damage, loss, or theft of personal property stored in the barracks trunk room, barracks cadet rooms, or other areas on Post. It is recommended that personal items be labeled with the cadet's name.

Use the following list to pack for VMI. Most items should be brought from home, but some items may be purchased at the VMI Bookstore (540-464-7637) or at the VMI Military Store (540-464-7303). Items bought at the VMI Military Store must be paid for with cash, check, or credit card. The bookstore accepts all major credit cards and Keydet cash. The number of clothing items recommended is the minimum based on having to change clothes two or three times a day during the August heat. Laundry is sent out once a week so plan accordingly.



MANDATORY AND OPTIONAL ITEMS

MANDATORY ITEMS

- 18 Underwear (minimum number) - must be white
- 14 Compression shorts (reduces chafing) - black – see page 12
- 10 Women - Sports bras (5) (minimum) and regular bras (5) - must be white
- 18 Men & Women White crew neck t-shirts only. V-neck or tank-top undershirts are not authorized
- 18 Pairs (minimum) of plain white, ankle-length or crew length athletic socks with no visible logos; socks must show above the shoe
- 18 Pairs (minimum) of plain black dress socks to be worn with low quarter shoes
- 10 Pairs (minimum) of long (over the calf) black boot/hiking socks to be worn with combat boots – see page 12
- 2 Pairs of running shoes (Asics, Brooks, Nike, or Reebok are recommended), predominantly white or black (no fluorescent soles or laces) – see picture on page 12
- 6 Plain white bath towels (minimum)
- 6 Plain white wash cloths (minimum)
- 1 Blanket, quilt or comforter (dark solid color), twin size, extra long
- 6 Twin XL white flat sheets (no elastic)
- 2 White pillow cases (twin or king)
- 1 Small duffel bag for overnight Corps trips*
- 1 White pillow (twin or king to fit pillow cases above)
- 1 Swimsuit (conservative one piece)/traditional swim trunks (not jammers) - navy or black
- 1 Rubber thong sandals* (for showering) – see page 12
- 1 Mouth guard* (for boxing class)
- 2 Sunscreen* (tube or bottle)
- 1 Black hydration pack* without external compartments (70 oz.; i.e., Camelbak, Blackhawk or equivalent) – see page 12

**May be purchased in the VMI bookstore*

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- 5 Pairs of compression/support knee-high nylons (helps prevent blisters when worn under socks)
- 1 Small fan 12"-16"* (since barracks rooms are not air conditioned)
- 1 Study lamp* (black, goose neck 18" maximum height)
- 1 Watch (athletic style recommended)
- 1 Alarm clock*
- 1 Civilian clothes outfit for Corps Trip (collared shirt/khakis)
- 1 iron and small ironing board (only one per room; should be purchased after cadre week)
- 1 lock box (available for sale during STP Registration and the Matriculation Fair)
- 1 musical instrument (band members)

**May be purchased in the VMI bookstore*

Long Black Boot/Hiking Socks



Running Shoes



Hydration Pack



Compression Shorts



Shower Shoes



PERSONAL ITEMS YOU MUST BRING

Tooth Brush*(es)	Body/Foot powder/shoe spray*
Toothpaste*	Shaving razor*(s)
Chap Stick*	Shampoo & Conditioner*
Small packages of tissues*	Body soap*
Medication (if required)	Deodorant*
Shaving Cream*	Moleskin* (type of bandage)
Band-Aids*	Tissues* (box)
Antibiotic Cream*	Eyeglasses (2 pairs) if needed - no transition lens allowed

**May be purchased in the VMI bookstore*

ACADEMIC SUPPLIES YOU SHOULD BRING

Pens*	Notebooks*
Pencils*	Binders*
Paper*	Folders*
Flash drives*	Laptop Computer* (no desktop) or iPad (1)
Calculator* (scientific or graphing)	Engineering Paper (for engineering majors)
VMI book/computer bag*; black fabric brief case style computer bag (not a backpack)	

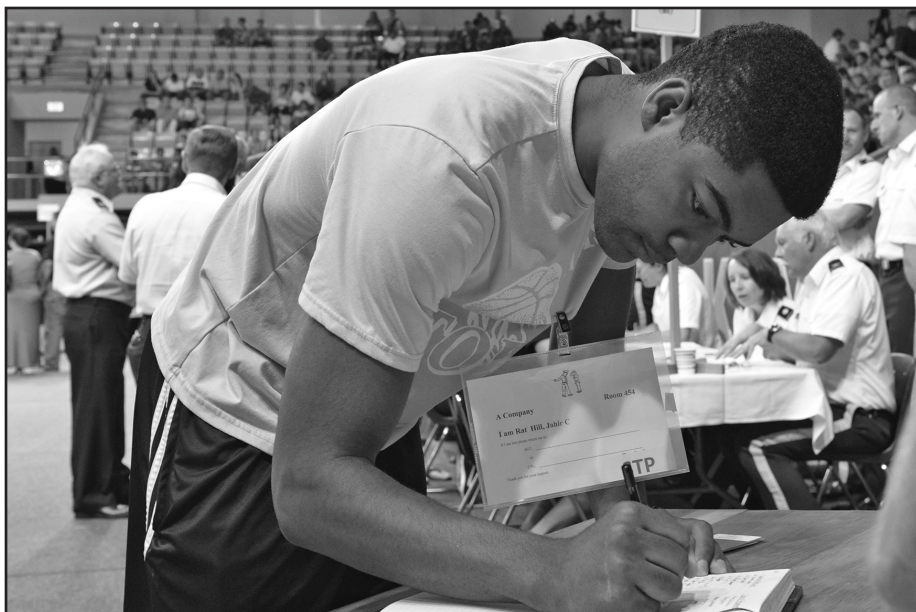
**May be purchased in the VMI bookstore*

PROHIBITED ITEMS - DO NOT BRING THESE ITEMS - THEY WILL BE CONFISCATED

Weapons of any type
Knives of any type
Electrical equipment and appliances (including microwave ovens, hot pots, heating elements, etc.)
Plants and pets
Flammable materials including candles, fireworks, incense, etc.
TVs or any other type of entertainment media
Alcohol, illegal drugs or associated paraphernalia

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR RATS UNTIL AFTER BREAKOUT:

Cell Phones	Computer speakers
Electric razors	Transition lens in eye glasses
DVDs, CDs, computer games	Clothing with emblems/logos, to include socks, underwear, t-shirts, linens, and towels
iPods or similar devices, & MP3 players	



III - MATRICULATION AND CADRE WEEK

MATRICULATION

Your first days at VMI include matriculation day, Saturday 20 August 2016, and nine days of military training. Matriculation is the day you report to VMI's Cameron Hall to register for classes and sign the matriculation book. You will also receive company and room assignments, a laundry number and the uniforms that will be worn throughout the first week of training. After matriculating, you can move your belongings into barracks, attend the Matriculation Fair and have lunch with your family in Crozet Hall. For additional details on the matriculation process, go to <http://www.vmi.edu/matriculation>.

MATRICULATION WEEK OVERVIEW

After you say “good-bye” to your family and form up with your company for the first time, you will march into barracks to meet your cadre. Fourteen upper class cadets from each company known as “cadre” are responsible for the training rats undergo to become VMI cadets. Collectively you are known as a rat mass and the Class of 2017 plus 3. You will not earn the status of fourth class cadet, Class of 2020, until after breakout.

Meeting your cadre will be the first in a long series of events designed to train and test you as you prepare for assuming the responsibilities of cadetship. During cadre week, you will participate in numerous training activities, get your rat haircut, engage in daily physical fitness routines, learn about the history of VMI, and become familiar with the requirements of cadet life. During the week, you will also purchase academic books, so ensure funds are available. Cadre week concludes with an event called the rat crucible.

UNIFORM ISSUE

Most uniform items are issued during the first week at VMI. The remaining items are issued as required. The following items are issued to new cadets:

New Cadet Uniform Issue

Item	Quantity	Item	Quantity
Army Combat Uniform (ACU) - Cap	1	Name Tag (White)	2
ACU - Coat	2	Overcoat - Gray Wool.....	1
ACU - Trouser	2	Rain Cap Cover	1
ACU - "T" Shirt	6	Raincoat/Cape	1
BDU - Field Jacket	1	Shako (Complete)	1
Bed Strap.....	2	Shirt - Gray Athletic.....	6
Belt - ACU w/buckle.....	1	Shirt - Black Long Sleeve	3
Belt - Black Leather w/buckle.....	1	Shirt - Red Polo	1
Belt - White Parade (cross dyke pair).....	3	Shirt - White Short Sleeve.....	6
Belt - White Parade w/grommet.....	3	Shoes - Black (pair).....	2
Blouse - Gray Wool.....	1	Shoes - Pump *.....	1
Boots - Combat.....	1	Shoulder Board w/o stripe.....	1
Box - Miscellaneous	3	Shorts - Black Athletic	6
Brass Item - Breast Plate.....	1	Skirt - Short White Poly *.....	1
Brass Item - Cap Device.....	1	Skirt - Long Formal White Poly *.....	1
Brass Item - Cuff Link (pair)	2	Socks - Black Crew (low quarters).....	1
Brass Item - Waist Plate	1	Socks - Black (boots).....	1
Cap - Dress.....	2	Suspenders.....	1
Cap - Watch	1	Sweat Shirt.....	2
Coatee - Gray Wool	1	Tab - Black (women)	1
Collar	3	Tie - Black (men)	1
Cuff (pair).....	4	Travel Suit Jacket.....	1
Gloves - Black Leather	1	Travel Suit Pants	2
Gloves - White Cotton.....	5	Trousers - Gray Wool (high rise).....	1
Jacket - Black Duty.....	1	Trousers - Gray Wool (regular rise)	2
Laundry Bag	2	Trousers - White Cotton (high rise)	4
Mattress Cover.....	2	Trousers - White Poly-cotton (regular rise)	4
Name Tag (Black) [after ratline].....	2		

*Issued to women

Fitting and issuing of many uniforms is done during cadre week. Some uniform items are issued in advance to students attending the Summer Transition Program. Identification of clothing is made by a laundry number assigned by the VMI Laundry Department. "Rat bags" containing various supplies issued during the first week include a marking pen. Rats are given time to mark all washable items they bring with them. These issued items are subject to change.