

Wehrmacht General Officer shoulder boards

Description

General officers of all three branches wore shoulder boards of similar design. In comparison to company and field grade boards, the Russia braid used was larger, with 3 strands of interwoven cord used, rather than 4. In addition, the braid was woven into 4 bends, rather than the 5 used by field grade officers. (Variant 5 bend boards did exist. Follow the link at the bottom of the page and click on 'Non-regulation Oddities'.) The outer cords were either metallic gold or Celleon. The smaller center cord was silver. An April 1941 order stipulated that (for Heer generals only) the center braid was thereafter also to be gold. 'Regular' Heer general's boards had red underlay. Generals of the specialist careers used their particular branch color. Beamte generals used both dark green and a secondary color. The underlay for Kriegsmarine admirals was dark blue, while the Luftwaffe used white. Devices or rank pips were silver, and a number of sizes of rank pips were used.



Standard Generaleutnant board with metallic braid and large pip.



Generalintendant. Red on Dark green underlay. Note center cord.



Generalintendant. Royal blue underlay, made with Celleon cords.



Generalfeldmarshall. Note all gold cord, as per the 1941 regulation.



Kriegsmarine Konteradmiral. Dark blue underlay.



Luftwaffe Generalmajor.

Prepared by Dave Suter - 08/05/05

For those interested, a detailed article covering all aspects of German Heer shoulder boards and straps can be found at http://www.wehrmacht-awards.com/uniforms_firearms/uniforms/shoulder_boards/index.htm

