

Nuclear Reactor Badges, 1966-1990



The four nuclear reactor badges, left to right: Basic, 2d Class, 1st Class, and Shift Supervisor badge. The latter badge was also later given to reactor commanders. The army awarded these between 1966 and 1990.

At the request of the Chief of Engineers, the army approved a set of nuclear operator badges on June 18, 1965, and published the authorization in Changes 14, August 26, 1966, to AR 672-5-1. AR 350-224 established the badge requirements. The army did not award any badges after October 1990.

The requirement for the basic badge was to complete the required operator course. The 2d class badge requirements included completing at least 15 shifts after award of the basic badge. 1st class badge requirements included completing at least 75 shifts after award of the basic badge and successful passing an examination. Requirements for the shift supervisor badge include completing at least 120 shifts after award of the basic badge and receipt of an Atomic Energy Commission certificate showing qualification as a shift supervisor. In 1969 AR 672-5-1 added the reactor commander badge which was identical to the shift supervisor badge.

The badge's central design is based upon the scientific symbol of the planet Uranus, since the element uranium and Uranus have a common root. That symbol is:

