

## A Few Gold Lace 19th Century Dress Chevron Variations

The US Army had large gold lace chevrons for dress uniforms from the mid 1880s into the early 20th century when they were replaced by current sized, branch colored cloth chevrons, starting in 1903, after publication of new 1902 uniforms regulations. The Coast Artillery Corps wore the gold lace chevrons and old uniforms into 1912 to use up the stocks of existing old style uniforms. Several photos show some of these dress chevrons from the William Emerson collection.

The gold lace chevrons for the Signal Corps were introduced in 1891 since before that Signal Corps soldiers had other chevrons and between 1889 and 1891, a special uniform. These Signal Corps chevrons came with the flags in pairs so the white flag would face forward. Since the chevrons were hand embroidered by different seamstresses, pairs had different details. Shown are various versions of these scarce Signal Corps chevrons. Sergeants had three Vs while Sergeants First Class added one arc above. Other chevrons came in pairs and since they were made at different times, also are found with minor variations. Some of the details of the Signal Corps insignia are enlarged for clarity. Regulations called for the white flags to be worn to the front, although photographs show this was not always done.

Two slightly different examples for Commissary Sergeants are also illustrated, followed by other dress chevrons.







Enlargements of the two devices are below.





Below is a matched pair for a Signal Corps sergeant.



Commissary Sergeants were to have the points of their crescents point forward. Two versions, one each for right and left sleeves, are shown.



A sampling of artillery and cavalry dress chevrons follow, preceded by an infantry color sergeant chevron.





