

## Punishments that may be awarded by a commanding officer under the Armed Forces Act 2006

### Punishments that may be awarded where the accused is an able rate, soldier, marine, airman

Punishment	Limitations
Detention	<p>The maximum period of detention that may be awarded by a CO is 28 days if he does <b>not</b> have extended powers* <b>under section 133</b> of the Act. The maximum period if a CO does have extended powers under this section of the Act is 90 days detention.</p> <p>An accused will be told before the summary hearing whether the CO has extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>The CO also has the power to suspend any sentence of detention he imposes.</p>
Fine	Not exceeding 28 days pay.
Service supervision and punishment order	The punishment will operate for a maximum period of up to 90 days and during that period the offender will have 1/6 <sup>th</sup> of their gross pay forfeited, will be prevented from taking any leave without the permission of the CO and may also have one or more of the following imposed: extra duties or prohibition on leaving/entering specified places without permission of the CO.
Stoppage of leave order	The punishment will operate for up to 14 days (which may or may not be consecutive). Throughout this period the offender will be prevented from leaving a ship/unit/establishment without the permission of the CO.
Admonition	
Restriction of privileges order	The punishment will operate for up to 14 days (which may or may not be consecutive). During this period the offender will be required to do extra duties.
Service compensation order	Not exceeding £1000.
Combinations of punishment	Some types of punishments cannot be combined with each other, while others may be combined. The table below sets out the punishments which may be combined.
* Note on extended powers	A CO who holds the rank of rear admiral, major-general, or air vice marshal automatically has extended powers and can therefore award up to 90 days detention.

## Punishments that may be awarded where the accused is a lance corporal or a lance bombardier (Army and RM only)

Punishment	Limitations
Detention	<p>The maximum period of detention that may be awarded by a CO is 90 days. However, detention may only be awarded if the CO has been granted extended powers* <b>under section 133</b> of the Act. If a CO imposes a sentence of detention, the offender will <b>automatically</b> be reduced in rank to marine or soldier (see section 293 of the Act).</p> <p>An accused will be told before the summary hearing whether the CO has extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>A CO who has been given extended powers to award a sentence of detention will not necessarily have extended powers under other sections of the Act, for example section 135 (reduction in rank).</p> <p>The CO also has the power to suspend any sentence of detention he imposes. If the sentence of detention is suspended it will not <b>automatically</b> result in reduction in rank.</p>
Reduction in rank	<p>Where this punishment is awarded:</p> <p>If the offender holds acting rank the offender will be reduced by one acting rank.</p> <p>If the offender does not hold acting rank the offender will be reduced in rank/rate by one substantive rank..</p>
Fine	Maximum of 28 days pay.
Severe reprimand or reprimand	
Stoppage of leave order	The punishment will operate for up to 14 days (which may or may not be consecutive). Throughout this period the offender will be prevented from leaving a ship/unit/establishment without the permission of the CO.
Admonition	
Service compensation order	Maximum £1000.
Combinations of punishment	Some types of punishments cannot be combined with each other, while others may be combined. The table below sets out the punishments which may be combined.
* Note on extended powers	A CO who holds the rank of rear admiral, major-general, or air vice marshal automatically has extended powers and can therefore award up to 90 days detention.

**Punishments that may be awarded where the accused is a non commissioned officer (excluding lance corporal and lance bombardier)**

Punishment	Limitations
Detention	<p><b>RN leading rates and RAF corporals only. Detention cannot be awarded to an accused who is of or above the rank/rate of (RN) petty officer, (Army) corporal or (RAF) sergeant.</b></p> <p>The maximum period of detention that may be awarded by a CO is 90 days. However, detention may only be awarded if the CO has been granted extended powers* <b>under section 133</b> of the Act. If a CO imposes a sentence of detention, the offender will <b>automatically</b> be reduced in rank to able rate, marine, soldier or airman (see section 293 of the Act).</p> <p>(RAF only - Where the offender is reduced to the rank of airman the offender will be reduced to the highest rank that he has previously held as an airman.)</p> <p>An accused will be told before the summary hearing whether the CO has extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>A CO who has been given extended powers to award a sentence of detention will not necessarily have extended powers under other sections of the Act, for example section 135 (reduction in rank/rate).</p> <p>The CO also has the power to suspend any sentence of detention he imposes. If the sentence of detention is suspended it will not <b>automatically</b> result in reduction in rank.</p>
Reduction in rank/rate	<p>This punishment cannot be awarded unless the CO has extended powers under <b>section 135</b> of the Act. An accused will be informed before the summary hearing if a CO has been given extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>Where this punishment is awarded:            If the offender holds acting rank/rate the offender will be reduced by one acting rank/rate,            If the offender does not hold acting rank/rate the offender will be reduced in rank/rate by one substantive rank/rate.</p> <p>(RAF only - Where the offender is reduced to the rank of airman the offender will be reduced to the highest rank that he has previously held as an airman.)</p> <p>A CO who has been given extended powers to reduce the offender in rank/rate will not automatically have extended powers for other purposes (for example extended powers under <b>section 133(1)</b> of the Act to award a sentence of detention).</p>
Fine	Maximum 28 days pay.

Severe reprimand or a reprimand	
Service compensation order	Not exceeding £1000.
Stoppage of leave order	The punishment will operate for up to 14 days (which may or may not be consecutive). Throughout this period the offender will be prevented from leaving a ship/unit/establishment without the permission of the CO.
Admonition	
Combinations of punishment	Some types of punishments cannot be combined with each other, while others may be combined. The table below sets out the punishments which may be combined.
* Note on extended powers	A CO who holds the rank of rear admiral, major-general, or air vice marshal automatically has extended powers and can therefore award up to 90 days detention or reduction in rank/rate.

## Punishments that may be awarded where the accused is a warrant officer

Punishment	Limitations
Reduction in rank/rate	<p>This punishment cannot be awarded unless the CO has extended powers* under <b>section 135</b> of the Act. An accused will be informed before the summary hearing if a CO has been given extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>Where this punishment is awarded:            If the offender holds acting rank/rate the offender will be reduced by one acting rank/rate,            If the offender does not hold acting rank/rate the offender will be reduced in rank by one substantive rank/rate.</p> <p>A CO who has been given extended powers to reduce you in rank/rate will not automatically have extended powers for other purposes, for example extended powers under <b>section 136</b> of the Act to award a fine which is for a sum greater than 14 days pay.</p>
Fine	<p>Maximum 14 days pay if the CO does not have extended powers* under <b>section 136</b> of the Act. Maximum 28 days pay if the CO does have extended powers*. An accused will be informed before the summary hearing if a CO has been given extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>A CO who has extended powers to impose a fine for a sum greater than 14 days pay (but not more than 28 days) will not automatically have extended powers for other purposes for example extended powers under <b>section 135</b> of the Act (reduction in rank).</p>
Service compensation order	Not exceeding £1000.
Admonition	
Combinations of punishment	Some types of punishments cannot be combined with each other, while others may be combined. The table below sets out the punishments which may be combined.
* Note on extended powers	A CO who holds the rank of rear admiral, major-general, or air vice marshal automatically has extended powers and can therefore reduce an offender in rank/rate or impose a fine in excess of 14 days pay (up to a maximum of 28 day) without extended powers.

## Punishments that may be awarded where the accused is a commissioned officer

Punishment	Limitations
Forfeiture of a specified term of seniority or of all seniority	<p>This punishment cannot be awarded unless the CO has extended powers* under <b>section 134</b> of the Act. An accused will be informed before the summary hearing if a CO has been given extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>A CO who has been given extended powers to award forfeiture of seniority under <b>section 134</b> of the Act will not automatically have extended powers for other purposes, for example extended powers under <b>section 136</b> of the Act to award a fine which is for a sum greater than 14 days pay but up to a maximum of 28 days pay.</p>
Fine	<p>Maximum 14 days pay if the CO does not have extended powers* under <b>section 136</b> of the Act. Maximum 28 days pay if the CO does have extended powers*. An accused will be informed before the summary hearing if a CO has been given extended powers under this section of the Act.</p> <p>A CO who has extended powers to impose a fine for a sum greater than 14 days pay (but not more than 28 days) will not automatically have extended powers for other purposes, for example extended powers under <b>section 134</b> of the Act (forfeiture of seniority).</p>
Severe reprimand or reprimand	
Service compensation order	Not exceeding £1000.
Combinations of punishment	Some types of punishments cannot be combined with each other, while others may be combined. The table below sets out the punishments which may be combined.
* Note on extended powers	A CO who holds the rank of rear admiral, major-general, or air vice marshal automatically has extended powers and can therefore award forfeiture of seniority or impose a fine in excess of 14 days pay (up to a maximum of 28 day) without extended powers.

## Punishments that may be awarded where the accused is an officer cadet/ student officer

Where the accused is undergoing officer training, the punishment(s) that he can be awarded will depend on his rank/rate. The sole exception to this is an **Army officer cadet**, who may be awarded a **restriction of privileges order** regardless of his rank.

## Punishments which may be combined

<b>Punishment</b>	<b>May be combined with</b>
Detention	Service compensation order
Detention (suspended)	Reduction in rank/rate Service compensation order
Forfeiture of seniority	Severe reprimand Reprimand Service compensation order
Reduction in rank	Service compensation order
Fine	Severe reprimand Reprimand Service compensation order Stoppage of leave order Restrictions of privilege
Severe Reprimand /Reprimand	Forfeiture of seniority Fine Stoppage of leave order Service compensation order
SSPO	Service compensation order
Service compensation order	Any punishment
Stoppage of leave	Fine Severe reprimand Reprimand Restrictions of privilege Service compensation order
Admonition	Service compensation order
Restrictions of privilege	Fine Stoppage of leave order Service compensation order