



The Maritime Academy Of Toledo

Rank And Promotion Handbook for Cadet Apprentice

Rank of Apprentice		Nautical/Maritime Terms	Nautical/Maritime Definition	Maritime Academy Terminology
1.	Apprentice	SHIP	Like a boat, is a vehicle designed for passage or transportation by water. A ship usually has sufficient size to carry its own boats, such as lifeboats, dinghies, or runabouts. A rule of thumb saying (though it doesn't always apply) goes: "a boat can fit on a ship, but a ship can't fit on a boat". Often local law and regulation will define the exact size (or the number of masts) which a boat requires to become a ship. (Note that one always refers to submarines as "boats".) Compare vessel. During the age of sail, ship signified a ship-rigged vessel, that is, one with three square-rigged masts and a bowsprit. Nautical means related to ships, particularly customs and practices at sea. A larger vessel usually thought of as being used for ocean and Great Lakes travel. A vessel able to carry a "boat" on board.	The Maritime Academy Of Toledo School Building
2.	Apprentice	ABOARD	On or within the boat.	In The School Building
3.	Apprentice	ABOVE DECK	On the deck (not over it - see ALOFT)	On Deck/Upper Deck
4.	Apprentice	ABREAST	Side by side; by the side of.	Side By Side
5.	Apprentice	AHEAD	In a forward direction.	Forward
6.	Apprentice	AHOY	This old traditional greeting for hailing other vessels was originally a Viking battle cry.	Greeting To Other Students
7.	Apprentice	BAMBOOZLE	From the 17 th century, it described the Spanish custom of hoisting false flags to deceive (bamboozle) enemies. In today's Navy, when you intentionally deceive someone, usually as a joke, you are said to have bamboozled them. The word was used in the days of sail also, but the intent was not hilarity. Bamboozle meant to deceive a passing vessel as to your ship's origin or nationality by flying an ensign other than your own - a common practice of pirates.	Deceive
8.	Apprentice	BELOW	Beneath the deck.	Basement Level Of The School
9.	Apprentice	CAST OFF	To let go. Letting go the lines to a mooring, wharf, dock, buoy or another ship in order to move away. Shore-side, the term refers to second-hand clothing.	Move Away
10.	Apprentice	CRANKY	Possibly from the Dutch krenkd, a crank was an unstable sailing vessel. Due to a faulty design, the imbalance of her cargo, or a lack of ballast, a crank would heel too far to the wind. Has come to mean irritable.	Irritable
11.	Apprentice	DECK	A permanent covering over a compartment, hull or any part thereof.	Floor
12.	Apprentice	EVEN KEEL	When the draft of a ship fore and aft are the same.	Balanced
13.	Apprentice	FORWARD	Toward the bow of the boat.	To The Front
14.	Apprentice	GALLEY	The galley is the kitchen of the ship. The best explanation as to its origin is that it is a corruption of "gallery". Ancient sailors cooked their meals on a brick or stone gallery laid amidships.	School Kitchen
15.	Apprentice	GIVE-WAY	A term used to describe yielding actions in meeting, crossing, or overtaking situations.	Yield

16.	Apprentice	HATCH	An opening in a boat's deck fitted with a watertight cover. An opening, generally rectangular, in a ship's deck providing access into the compartment below.	Door
17.	Apprentice	HEAD	A marine toilet. Also the upper corner of a triangular sail. The ship's toilet. Head The use of "head" in this context sounds like an anatomical joke, or the work of someone who, to put it delicately, didn't know their head from their foot. But after a dip into some maritime history, calling a ship's bathroom the head makes perfect sense. That's head, as in the forward part of the ship, the bow. In the days of sailing vessels, there wasn't any indoor plumbing on land or at sea. Sailors took care of business while hanging over the edge of the ship by ropes or on a platform - always at the bow. Why the bow? Because sailing ships had to have the wind coming from behind them to power their sails. Thus, if the sailor chose the stern, or back of the ship, the wind would be coming toward him. And, well ... you wouldn't spit into the wind, would you? He Knows the Ropes In the very early days, this phrase was written on a seaman's discharge to indicate that he was still a novice. All he knew about being a sailor was just the names and uses of the principal ropes (lines). Today, this same phrase means the opposite — that the person fully knows and understands the operation (usually of the organization).	Toilet /Bathroom
18.	Apprentice	HEADING.	The direction in which a vessel's bow points at any given time	Direction
19.	Apprentice	SCUTTLEBUTT	The cask of drinking water on ships was called a scuttlebutt and since Sailors exchanged gossip when they gathered at the scuttlebutt for a drink of water, scuttlebutt became U.S. Navy slang for gossip or rumors. A butt was a wooden cask which held water or other liquids; to scuttle is to drill a hole, as for tapping a cask; A "butt" is a cask. To "scuttle" means to make holes in the ship to sink it. A "scuttlebutt" is referred to as a cask with a spigot in its side. Stout casks of oak held the freshwater for drinking. "Scuttlebutt" is also referred to as a rumor, because men and women naturally congregate at drinking fountains, and thus it is where rumors start.	Rumors
20.	Apprentice	SEA DADDY OR SEA MOMMY	Someone who takes a less-experienced crewmember under his or her wing and expert tutelage. Often, and traditionally, when a CPO takes care of and educates a boot ensign. Nowadays, known as "Mentoring".	Chief Petty Officer
21.	Apprentice	SHAPE UP	Perform up to expectations. Follow the rules	Listen Up
22.	Apprentice	SHIVER ME TIMBERS	Timbers were the largest, and therefore the main support beams for the decks and ribs of a ship. Only violent movements, such as heavy seas or a collision, could cause them to shake. This term came to be used for any deed or action that was deeply surprising or threatening to a sailor.	Reaction Of Surprise
23.	Apprentice	SLACK	Not fastened; loose. Also, to loosen.	Loosen
24.	Apprentice	SLOPS	The name given to ready-made clothing carried in old warships and issued to seamen on repayment against their pay when drawn. The name comes from the old English word 'sloppe', meaning breeches. 'Sloppy Clothing' originally referred only to the baggy trousers worn by seamen, since the ship's tailor made them all extra-large to ensure they could be worn by anyone.	Dress Down Day Clothing

25.	Apprentice	TURN A BLIND EYE	<p>In 1801, during the Battle of Copenhagen, Admiral Nelson deliberately held his telescope to his blind eye, in order not to see the flag signal from the commander to stop the bombardment. He won. Turning a blind eye means to ignore intentionally. Admiral Lord Nelson of the British Navy lost his left eye during a battle while still a Captain (At Tenerife). Later on, while a junior admiral or Commodore, he was in a battle (Copenhagen) under the over-all command of Fleet Admiral Earl St. Vincent. During the fighting, Vice Admiral Parker sent a signal to Nelson to get closer to him. Nelson, however, had seen a gap in the enemy battle line, and knew he could win the battle if he sailed into it instead, thus splitting the enemy fleet. Rather than flagrantly disobeying orders, he simply held up a telescope to his blind eye and said, "I don't see the signal," and thus went on to win the battle. Since that time, this term is used when a high-ranking official chooses not to see a situation - If it's for the greater good, of course.</p>	Ignore
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