KZINTI RANK INSIGNIA

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Kzinti military ranks have both grades (admiral, captain, lieutenant) and ranks (admiral 1st rank, lieutenant 4th rank). Ranks within a grade are earned by time in service, passing certain tests, and/or by achieving some great accomplishment or success (e.g., pilots of the 5th rank can be promoted one rank after their first dogfight victory, or earn the promotion by experience). Being promoted to a higher grade is more difficult; the lowest captain outranks the highest commander. Higher ranks and grades indicate more social prestige, pay, and responsibility. Captains of the higher ranks command larger or more important ships, for example.

NCOs (petty officers and sergeants) supervise crewmen. Lieutenants supervise enlisted personnel. Commanders are department heads or deputy heads of larger departments. Captains command starships (or battalions). Commodores (brigadiers in ground forces) command squadrons (or brigades and divisions). Admirals (or generals) command fleets, theaters (or corps and armies). Rank insigia are in branch colors: silver (space, including engineers who are considered "line" officers), gold (staff), green (ground forces), red (medical), blue (science). Officers of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd ranks are eligible for promotion to the next higher grade.