

Dark Angels Organisation and Markings

CHAPTER FIELD GUIDE

Company structure, ranks and heraldry

A reference to the modern Dark Angels parent chapter: its companies, command roles, armour, badges and permitted heraldic variation. Here, **compliant** means consistent with the Dark Angels' documented traditions, including their departures from the generic Codex Astartes. It does not mean copying Ultramarines helmet colours or company-coloured shoulder rims.

Reviewed 21 October 2026. References distinguish established conventions, dated examples, author interpretation, and this army's approved variations.

Game keywords and current datasheet eligibility are separate from lore membership and painted insignia.

Explore the collection

01

Ranks and specialist roles

officers, squad leaders, veterans, religious and technical offices.

02

Armour and squad markings

wearer-left/right placement, company devices, battlefield roles and squad numbers.

03

Deathwing membership and heraldry

Terminators, power-armoured veterans, Crux placement and attachments.

04

Ravenwing squadrons and heraldry

mixed cavalry formations, Black Knights, pilots and numbering conflicts.

05

Transfers and honours

what a decal identifies, what remains decorative, and campaign badges.

06

History and army variations

older schemes, successors, Ely's personal collection, and this army's sergeant shields.

Companies at a glance

A company's hundred line troops do not include every headquarters, vehicle, support institution or attached specialist. The chapter disposition combines material from several editions.

SPECIALIST COMPANIES

COMPANY 1

Deathwing

Specialist veteran company; includes Terminator and modern power-armoured veteran formations.

COMPANY 2

Ravenwing

Mounted cavalry, speeders and dedicated aircraft, with its own veteran and command elements.

BATTLE COMPANIES · 6 / 2 / 2 SQUADS

COMPANY 3

The Unmerciful

Battle company: six battleline, two close-support, two fire-support squads.

COMPANY 4

The Feared

Same battle-company role framework.

COMPANY 5

The Unrelenting

Same battle-company role framework.

RESERVE COMPANIES

COMPANY 6

The Resolute

Reserve: ten battleline squads.

COMPANY 7

The Unbowed

Reserve: ten battleline squads.

COMPANY 8

The Wrathful

Reserve: ten close-support squads.

COMPANY 9

The Remorseless

Reserve: ten fire-support squads.

SCOUTS & VANGUARD

COMPANY 10

The Redeemed

Scouts, Vanguard Marines and neophytes;
its establishment does not translate into one
fixed list of Scout kits.

A role establishment specifies duties, not one mandatory list of kits. Reserve troops, specialists and detachments can accompany another company's force without every model acquiring a new permanent company identity. See [Space Marine company organization](#).

How to mark a new unit

STEP 1

Identify its parent chapter and company, then the armour type and any specialist office.

STEP 2

Use the formation's chapter or wing badge and the correct shoulder arrangement. Terminator shoulders reverse the usual chapter-badge side.

STEP 3

Add company and squad identity where that formation uses them.

STEP 4

Distinguish the officer or squad leader from veteran status and from honours earned.

STEP 5

Add campaign or personal heraldry without treating an unexplained decorative symbol as a universal rank code.

STEP 6

Add this army's sergeant shield design, described on the history page.

CHART RECONCILIATION

Reconciling our chapter chart

The original supplied chart and full transcription remain preserved as a reference. Its precise vehicle totals, named officers and X quantities do not establish a universal current muster. Its "Strikemaster Chaplains" line combines distinct offices; the sourced reading is two Strikemasters plus a separate Chaplain. The wing pages explain the differences in Deathwing totals and Ravenwing squadron counts.

Research and sources

Further reading: David Ely's *Dark Angels* series

Shoulder Pads of the Dark Angels

PUBLISHED

3 Mar 2021; updated 3 Oct 2026

MAIN USE

Marking conventions, including recent updates and conflicting examples.

Dark Angels Apothecaries

PUBLISHED

12 Mar 2021

MAIN USE

Official colour variants versus the author's preference.

Why Black Became Green

PUBLISHED

30 Apr 2021

MAIN USE

Historical change and unconfirmed production anecdote.

Development from Rogue Trader

PUBLISHED

4 May 2021

MAIN USE

Publication timeline and older heraldry.

Successor Chapters

PUBLISHED

27 Jan 2023

MAIN USE

Successor Chapter colours and organisational differences.

His Fourth Company

PUBLISHED

6 Apr 2023

MAIN USE

Worked personal collection, rather than universal establishment.

Deathwing History and Complement

PUBLISHED

14 Jun 2023; subsequently updated

MAIN USE

Changing membership and
company/keyword distinction.

Decals and Transfer Sheets

PUBLISHED

24 Jan 2024; updated Feb 2024

MAIN USE

Decal identification, honours and decorative
freedom.

The Ravenwing

PUBLISHED

4 Jul 2025

MAIN USE

Cavalry and aircraft questions.

Painting Mistakes

PUBLISHED

15 Sep 2026

MAIN USE

Common marking conventions and disputed examples.

Ely's articles interpret the published material; the relevant pages explain disagreements between sources. This army's painting recipes contain its selected paints and methods.

CONTINUE EXPLORING

[Collection overview](#) · [Our army scheme](#)

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