

## Israel Defense Forces ranks

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IDF/Hebrew rank	Translation
<b>Officer Ranks:</b>	
Rav Aluf	Lieutenant General
Aluf	Major General
Tat Aluf	Brigadier General
Aluf Mishneh	Colonel
Segen Aluf	Lieutenant Colonel
Rav-Seren	Major
Seren	Captain
Segen	Lieutenant
Segen Mishneh	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant
<b>Enlisted &amp; NCO Ranks:</b>	
Rav Samal Bachir	Chief Warrant Officer
Rav Samal Rishon Yekhidati	Warrant Officer
Rav Samal Rishon	Sergeant Major
Rav Samal Yekhidati	First Sergeant
Samal Rishon	Sergeant First Class
Samal	Staff Sergeant
Rav Turai	Sergeant
Turai Rishon	Corporal
Turai	Private

IDF Unit*	Commanded by
Pikud	Aluf
Gayas	Aluf
Ugda	Aluf
Chativa	Tat Aluf (after 1967) Aluf Mishneh (before 1967)
Gdud	Segen Aluf
Pluga	Seren or Rav-Seren
Mahlaka	Segen
Kita	Turai Rishon or Samal

\* For more on IDF/Hebrew designations see this Orbat.com article on **Israeli Defense Forces Unit Hierarchy** <[http://www.orbat.com/site/data/isreal/israel\\_unithierarchy.html](http://www.orbat.com/site/data/isreal/israel_unithierarchy.html)>

### Notes

- The IDF is an integrated force where the Air Force and Navy have the status of branches
- The only 3-star position in the IDF is the Chief of the Staff.
- Heads of the IDF Navy and Israeli Air Force (like most other General Staff Officers) are Alufs or 'Major Generals'. They are the only 2-star officers in their respective branches.
- Tat Aluf or 'Brigadier General' was added after the six-day war of 1967.
- Officers in the ground forces are not directly commissioned. Soldiers who demonstrate command potential are encouraged to apply for Officer school. The result is that the IDF does not depend on the senior NCO corps in the same way as Western armies. It is also one reason why the IDF loses so many of its best and brightest officers in action.
- Shoulder board insignia are a unique mixture of British and American, reflecting the two biggest sources of influence on the IDF's organisation. Images can be found here <<http://www.idf.il/english/insignia/rank.stm>>