

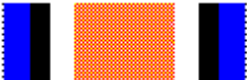





Stars and Medals awarded for Service in the 1914 to 1918 War

The rules for qualification are very complicated and are much abbreviated here

Stars and Medals	Description
	<p>1914 Star. Awarded to those on establishment of a unit in France or Belgium from 5 Aug 14 to 22 Nov 14. The star has three scrolls “Aug”, “1914” and “Nov”. Those who served under fire received a bar bearing the dates “5th AUG. - 22nd NOV.” to be worn centrally on the ribbon carrying the star. A silver rose is worn on the ribbon alone to denote the bar. See also *.</p>
	<p>1914-15 Star. It was awarded to all who served in any theatre of war against the Germans and their allies from 5 Aug 14 to 31 Dec 15. It has one scroll only “1914-15” and no bar or rose emblem. Otherwise it is the same as the earlier Star. See also *.</p>
	<p>British War Medal. Originally for entry to a war zone or 28 days mobilized service with the Navy from 5 Aug 14 to 11 Nov 18, it was extended to include service in Russia and mine clearance up to 1920. It was also given to the army for service overseas in non-operational areas. The Navy could qualify for this alone by mobilised service anywhere, including the United Kingdom.</p>
	<p>Mercantile Marine War Medal. Awarded to Merchant seamen who were entitled to the British War Medal, and Royal Navy personnel manning defensive weapons on merchantmen. Most Merchant Marine sailors did not qualify for the Allied Victory Medal.</p>
	<p>Allied Victory Medal. Awarded to avoid a multiplicity of medals being exchanged between the allies. The army qualifications are as for the British War Medal; the Navy's differed so that some personnel got the War Medal but not this one. Those awarded a Mention in Despatches wore it on this medal. Personnel who were awarded only the War Medal without the Allied Victory Medal could not wear the emblem.</p>
	<p>Territorial Force War Medal. Awarded to members of the Territorial Force who had four years service pre-war, were in the Force on 5 Aug 14 or rejoined before 30 Sep 14, and who agreed to, or did, serve overseas. See also *.</p>

* Of the above only a maximum of four could be earned. The order of wear is as shown above starting with the 1914 Star and ending (towards the left shoulder of the wearer) with the Territorial Force War Medal. The award of one of the stars precluded the award of the other and of the Territorial Force War Medal, and most people in the War got either two or three medals. Royal Navy sailors with the Merchant Marine could be awarded one of the Stars, the British War Medal, the Mercantile Marine Medal and the Allied Victory Medal, as could merchant sailors joining the Royal Navy before the end of 1915. Many soldiers, engaged in some of the bloodiest battles of modern times, were given only the British War Medal and Allied Victory Medal, a thoroughly uninspiring pair.