

VICTORY MEDAL

Backgrounder



The **Victory Medal** made of bronze bears a winged figure of Victory on the obverse. On the reverse is an inscription, "**The Great War for Civilization.**" The rim is plain, and the medal hangs from a ring. The ribbon is red in the centre, with green and violet on either side shaded to form the colours of two rainbows.

A **bronze oak leaf** is worn on the ribbon of this medal if someone was "mentioned in despatches". Only one oak leaf is so worn, no matter how many "mentions" the wearer may have received.

The medal was designed to obviate the exchange of Allied commemorative war medals, and was awarded as follows:

To the personnel of the **Navy** who were mobilized and rendered approved service either:

- at sea between midnight, August 4- 5, 1914, and midnight November 11-12, 1918;
- on the establishment of a unit within a theatre of military operations.

In the **Army** the medal was granted to:

- all officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers and men of the British, Dominion, Colonial and Indian Forces, members of women formations who had been enrolled under a direct contract of service for service with His Majesty's Imperial Forces, civil medical practitioners, nursing sisters, nurses and other employed with military hospitals, who actually served on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war and within certain specified periods.

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