



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

Medal for Gallantry

The Medal for Gallantry is awarded to military personnel for acts of gallantry in action in hazardous circumstances.

About the award

Heroic courage by members of a country's armed forces in action or under fire has long been rewarded with a decoration or award.

Australia's highest-ranking military award is the Victoria Cross for Australia.

The Gallantry Decorations were introduced into the Australian honours system on 15 January 1991 by Letters Patent. The Gallantry Medal ranks second in the Gallantry Decorations:

- Star of Gallantry
- Medal for Gallantry, and
- Commendation for Gallantry.

How it is awarded

The Governor-General makes the award on the recommendation of the Minister for Defence. The Governor-General may also delegate his/her power to make immediate awards to military commanders in the field.

If the same person receives a further gallantry award it is in the form of a gold-plated silver bar displaying the medal's emblem. The bar is attached to the ribbon of the original award.

The decoration may be awarded posthumously.

The award is announced on Australia Day (January 26) and the Queen's Birthday (June) each year.

Medal design

The Medal for Gallantry is circular and is made of gold-plated silver. It is ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in gold-plated silver. The front of the medal bears a Federation Star, which is superimposed on a circle of flames. This image represents action under fire. The back of the medal shows a horizontal panel superimposed on a design of fluted rays.



Medal ribbon

The Medal for Gallantry is suspended from a 32 millimetre-wide ribbon by a narrow gold-plated silver suspender bar. The ribbon has a design of chevrons or upturned 'Vs' of light orange alternating with chevrons of deep orange angled at 60 degrees.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

MG

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1991

More information

IT'S AN HONOUR WEBSITE: www.itsanhonour.gov.au

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE: www.defence.gov.au