



REQUIRED ITEMS

FOR THE 2025 SEASON

ALL MRDs are required to have specific uniform and equipment/accessory items to participate this season. Please review this information carefully to make sure you are arriving to camp with the necessary items for your instrument/section.

ITEMS PROVIDED TO MEMBERS

ALL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE: MRD Water Bottle, Lanyard, Drawstring Backpack, Ear Plugs, as well as a Cooling Towel and Purple MRD T-shirt (New 2025).

ALL NEW MEMBERS** WILL RECEIVE:

- MRD T-Shirt
- MRD Long-Sleeve T-Shirt
- MRD Baseball Cap
- **These will be provided @ start of season – NO ORDERING IS NECESSARY.**

WIND PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE 2 pairs of white gloves (at uniform distribution).

****RETURNING MEMBERS** are ENCOURAGED to order additional/replacement MRD shirts/caps from the MRD online store (link will be emailed).

REQUIRED ITEMS FOR MEMBERS TO PROVIDE

ALL WIND/PERCUSSION MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN:

- **BLACK** Warm-up Pants and/or athletic shorts (no stripe): for game days/travel
- **BLACK** Khaki/Cotton Shorts: for non-uniform performances
- **BLACK** marching shoes (see details below)
- **BLACK** socks (mid-calf or knee-high)

GUARD MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE:

- Black dance shoes (details provided by guard staff).
- Black pants/top for game days/travel (details will be provided by guard staff)
- Additional items ordered at auditions/required of all guard members

MRD ONLINE STORE

For members, family, friends, and alumni . . .

For members who want to purchase additional REQUIRED items or FAMILY/FRIENDS/ALUMNI who are interested in (non-required) MRD merchandise: hoodies, t-shirts, quarter zips, hats, souvenir items, etc. . . .

*The MRD STORE will be available through **SATURDAY, August 15**. Orders can be delivered to the JMU Band Office or shipped directly to home addresses.*

<https://jmu-marching-royal-dukes-2025-fall-apparel.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

MARCHING SHOES

IF YOU ALREADY OWN A PAIR OF BLACK MARCHING SHOES . . .

1. These must be SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR MARCHING.
2. These must be FLAT BLACK (no patent leather (i.e. not shiny))
3. They must be in GOOD shape – no significant/visible damage. No holes.
4. BLACK ATHLETIC SHOES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

If you have any questions about your shoes, please feel free to bring them to MRD registration to get a staff member's approval.

If you need to purchase a new pair, order these ASAP so they can be delivered to you prior to the start of our season. You will need them by the first game.

Drillmasters – www.drillmaster.com

Style Plus – “Pinnacle” or “Impact”

leplusband.com

Dinkles – “Vanguard” or “Glide” designs



Please note that the above shoes are just recommendations. You should consider purchasing your shoes from the most convenient location and for the best price.

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED ITEMS FOR WIND PLAYERS

The items below are required for certain sections in the band. Please review this information carefully and make sure to place your order(s) in time to have these items with you for MRD Camp, August 13.

WW & BRASS: LYRES

LYRES: ALL WIND PLAYERS . . . well, almost all winds (Flute/Pic and Tuba are excluded) must provide their own lyre for use during stand band with flip folders. **Note: Flip Folders are provided.**

ALL MRD MUSIC is distributed in print and also available electronically. If you prefer accessing your music on your phone, please consider the **eFlip Lyre Accessory**



BRASS PLAYERS – Trumpet, Mellophone, Trombone, & Baritone

BERP: Each member of the MRD brass section should own their own Berp to be used during rehearsals for buzzing. They attach universally to any lead pipe. These can be found online and at most music stores.



TOWELS: Mellophones, Baritones, and Tubas are **REQUIRED** to provide a towel to use when placing your school instrument on the ground – these will also be useful to keep your horns clean/dry. *It is recommended that Trumpets and Trombones also bring one to use when necessary.*

VALVE OIL/SLIDE GREASE: Please make sure to have the necessary valve oil and/or slide grease with you. Consider having enough for the entire season.

And then . . . remember to use it regularly!!!

BRASS MOUTHPIECES

All brass players must provide their own mouthpiece(s). For those using university instruments (Mellophone, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba) please see below:

Mellophone: Please purchase a Mellophone mouthpiece – **Yamaha MP14F4**. Trumpet mouthpieces or Horn mouthpieces with an adaptor are not acceptable.

Trombone/Baritone: Large Bore mouthpiece – **Bach 6 ½ AL** or **Bach 5G** are recommended

Tuba: Any tuba mouthpiece will work. The **Conn Helleberg** is recommended – a good, quality mouthpiece that is affordable. Also, the **Bach 24AW** is a quality, affordable mouthpiece to consider.

SAXES & CLARINETS

REEDS: Please make sure you have a selection of appropriate reeds with you. It is recommended, due to the number of rehearsals and performances as well as the changing weather conditions, that you have at least 3 or 4 reeds to choose from at all times. Please have these in some type of reed case in order to protect them in your case during the seasons.

USING THE SAME REED ALL SEASON IS NOT ACCEPTABLE (unless you have a quality synthetic reed): A good sound, even on a "marching" horn, can only be created with good equipment, a quality mouthpiece, ligature, and reed.

MUSIC STANDS

The Marching Royal Dukes will provide music stands for every member to be used during rehearsals. The Marching Royal Dukes has a limited inventory of folding music stands for members to use during rehearsals. Digital copies of all music will be available on a shared drive, however, *individuals are encouraged to bring their own portable folding music stand (in case there aren't enough available).* It is the responsibility of each member to make sure to have a stand with them at all rehearsals. *The replacement cost of lost/missing MRD stands will be charged to student accounts if not returned at the end season.*

REMIND TEXTING

All members of the JMU Marching Royal Dukes will use the REMIND group text system to receive important daily messages/announcements.

Expect to receive an email/text invitation to join the "class" during the week prior to MRD camp. Please accept this ASAP. We will begin texting the system and sending important text messages texts during the week prior to our pre-season camp.

ULTIMATE DRILL BOOK APP

The Marching Royal Dukes use the Ultimate Drill Book Pro app for a convenient, reliable, and informative drill-learning experience. All members – with the exception of Front Ensemble – should have this app installed on their phone prior to the start of MRD camp. This app is FREE.

More specific information, including registration/log-in details will be emailed and available on the MRD website prior to camp, and also in your pre-season camp packet.

PROTECTING YOUR PERSONAL ITEMS!

Because the MRDs will rehearse rain-or-shine and we use our cell phones for learning drill and music, please plan for how you will PROTECT YOUR INSTRUMENT/PHONE from the elements. Please consider:

- Bring clear plastic/Ziploc bags for your phone, have extra in your case/backpack.
- Put a few kitchen trash bags in your instrument case to use if it starts raining at rehearsal. Larger 33-gallon trash bags also double as convenient rain ponchos in a pinch (hint-hint).
- Keep some plastic rain ponchos/rain jacket/mall umbrella in your instrument case/backpack to have available at all times

NOTE: During MRD pre-season camp, you might consider an extra pair of socks/change of shoes in case we are caught in rain during rehearsals.