

Vietnam War

M1 Helmet with Camo Cover

U.S. troops from WW2 through the Vietnam War were protected by the M1 helmet that was finally succeeded by the PASGT helmet in 1985. The M1 helmet has become an icon of the US military, with its design inspiring other militaries around the world. The M1 is a combination of two "one-size-fits-all" helmets—an outer metal shell, sometimes called the "steel pot", and a hard hat-type liner nestled



inside it featuring an adjustable suspension system. Helmet covers and netting would be applied by covering the steel shell with the extra material tucked inside the shell and secured by inserting the liner. The outer shell should not be worn by itself. The liner can be worn by itself, providing protection similar to a hard hat, and was often worn in such fashion by military policemen, and Assistant Drill Instructors. The liner is sometimes worn in U.S. military ceremonies and parades, painted white or chromed. The depth of the helmet is 7 inches (180 mm), the width is 9.5 inches (240 mm), and length is 11 inches (280 mm), the thickness is 1/8" (3 mm), [clarification needed] The weight of a World War II-era M1 is approximately 2.85 pounds (1.29 kg), including the liner and chinstrap. This sample also includes a camouflage covering.



(Donated by George Grom)