

Evolution of SAF's combat boots over the years

The Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) will be introducing new combat boots that are more rugged, while retaining comfort and agility. The new boots will be available from Friday at selected SAF eMart outlets, including at Safra Mount Faber, The Chevrons club in Jurong, Gombak Camp and Pasir Laba Camp.



LEATHER BOOTS WITH TOE-CAPS (BEFORE 1993)

- Weight: 950g
- Soldiers often maintained two pairs, one for daily use and the other for parade or ceremonial use, which they would often spend hours polishing to make them shiny.

PEBBLE-GRAINED AND SMOOTH LEATHER BOOTS (1993-2002)

- Weight: 760-780g
- Lighter without toe-caps, the boots also contained an anti-microbial Polyurethane insole with built-in arch support, which helped prevent ankle twisting and offered better hygiene.



GORE-TEX BOOTS (2002-2012)

- Weight: 730g
- The waterproof Gore-Tex material kept muddy water from entering the boots. The outsole was also suitable for jungle operations.

FRONTIER NYLON-FABRIC BOOTS (2012-2016)

- Weight: 705g
- SAF customised, these were lighter, safer and more comfortable. With leather uppers, polyurethane midsoles, and rubber soles, they also had perforated holes on their inner sides to drain out water.



ARMY COMBAT BOOT (ACB) AND ENHANCED COMBAT BOOT (ECB)

- Weight: 900g (ACB), 700g (ECB)
- Designed for durability, the ACB boots will be constructed with directly moulded soles, while the ECB — for active manoeuvre units like infantry, commandos and guards — will have a fully stitched cupsole.

The ACB comes in two models (Wellco Peruana and Altama) and have synthetic breathable material for quick drying, and a sole suitable for jungle use.

The ECB (Magnum) has an outsole for jungle and urban terrains.