



The Foundation of Character Development

At the heart of the U.S. Military Academy's mission is the cultivation of leaders who possess exceptional character. **The Cadet Honor Code** provides the foundation for shaping a cadet's character; it's not just a set of rules but the starting point for those aspiring to live above the common level of life.

The Cadet Honor Code is not a restriction; it's an invitation to build a foundation of integrity that can withstand any challenge. The Code's unwavering demands serve as a guide, a source of motivation, and a transformative force during the formative years at West Point. **The Cadet Honor Code** helps cadets develop into people who are honest all of the time. Over their years at West Point, cadets' daily adherence to **the Cadet Honor Code**—on decisions big and small—forges strong habits of trustworthy character.

This attuned focus equips cadets to recognize and then to “choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong” whenever faced with a difficult decision. This creates a baseline of honest behavior and a culture that supports character growth.