

## Medals and Decorations – Key to Abbreviations

### Medals – 1890 to 1965

<b>Medal or Award in order of precedence</b>	<b>Post-Nominal (Abbreviation)</b>
Victoria Cross	VC
George Cross	GC
Order of the British Empire	OBE
Distinguished Service Order	DSO
Distinguished Service Cross	DSC
Military Cross	MC
Distinguished Flying Cross	DFC
Air Force Cross	AFC
Distinguished Conduct Medal	DCM
Conspicuous Gallantry Medal	CGM
Distinguished Service Medal	DSM
Military Medal	MM
Distinguished Flying Medal	DFM
Air Force Medal	AFM
Meritorious Service Medal	MSM
Burma Gallantry Medal	BGM
George Medal	GM
Imperial Service Order	ISO
Mentioned in Despatches	(MID)
BSAC Medal 'Mashonaland 1890'	(Mash 1890)
BSAC Medal 'Matabeleland 1893'	(Mat 1893)
BSAC Medal 'Rhodesia 1896'	(Rhod 1896)
BSAC Medal 'Mashonaland 1897'	(Mash 1897)
Queen's South Africa Medal	(Queen's SA)
King's South Africa Medal	(King's SA)
1914 Star	(1914 ST)
1914-15 Star	(1914-14 ST)
British War Medal 1914-18	(B)
Victory Medal	(V)
1939-1945 Star	(1939-45 ST)
Atlantic Star	(Atlantic ST)
Air Crew Europe Star	(Air Crew Europe ST)
Africa Star	(Africa ST)
Pacific Star	(Pacific ST)
Burma Star	(Burma ST)
Italy Star	(Italy ST)
France and Germany Star	(France and Germany ST)
Defence Medal	(DM)
War Medal 1939-1945	(WM)

## Notes on the 1890-1897 Medals

The Matabeleland War Medal 1893 was originally instituted in 1896 for award to troops taking part in the suppression of the Matabele rebellion of 1893. It was later extended to cover operations in Rhodesia (1896) and Mashonaland (1897). The medal, as originally issued, had the inscription MATABELELAND 1893 at the top of the reverse. The medal was re-issued with RHODESIA 1896 or MASHONALAND 1897 inscribed on the reverse, but holders of medals for their first campaign only added clasps for subsequent campaigns. Rather belatedly, it was decided in 1927 to issue retrospectively the Mashonaland 1890 Medal for the Mashonaland campaign of 1890. In this instance the name and date of the campaign were not inscribed on the reverse though the details appeared on the clasp. Although 705 men were entitled, only 200 claimed the medal and clasp.

Clasps produced: Matabeleland 1890, Matabeleland 1893, Rhodesia 1896, Mashonaland 1897. There are only two medals from this period which are known to have all four clasps while only 15 medals had three clasps.

## **Rhodesian Medals – 1970 to 1980**

<b>Medal or Award in order of precedence</b>	<b>Post-Nominal (Abbreviation)</b>
Grand Master of the Legion of Merit	GMLM
Grand Cross of Valour	GCV
Conspicuous Gallantry Decoration	CGD
Grand Commander of the Legion of Merit	GCLM
Grand Officer of the Legion of Merit	GLM
Independence Decoration	ID
Independence Commemorative Decoration	ICD
Commander of the Legion of Merit	CLM
Police Cross for Conspicuous Gallantry	PCG
Silver Cross of Rhodesia	SCR
Rhodesia Prison Cross for Gallantry	RPC
Officer of the Legion of Merit	OLM
Member of the Legion of Merit	MLM
Police Decoration for Gallantry	PDG
Bronze Cross of Rhodesia	BCR
Police Cross for Distinguished Service	PCD
Defence Cross for Distinguished Service	DCD
Rhodesia Prison Cross for Distinguished Service	PSC
Meritorious Conduct Medal	MCM
Rhodesia Prison Medal for Gallantry	RPM
Medal for Meritorious Service	MSM
Police Medal for Meritorious Service	PMM
Defence Force Medal For Meritorious Service	DMM
Rhodesia Prison Medal For Meritorious Service	PMS

President's Medal for Chiefs	(PMC)
The President's Medal for Headmen	(PMH)
Rhodesian General Service Medal	(RGSM)
Prison Service Medal	(PSM)
The District Service Medal	(DSM)
Military Forces' Commendation - Operational	(MFC-Op)
Military Forces' Commendation - Non-Operational	(MFC-Non-Op)
Police Long Service Medal	(BSAP LSM)
Exemplary Service Medal	(ESM)
Prison Long Service Medal	(Pris LSM)
Police Reserve Long Service Medal	(BSAP RLSM)
Medal for Territorial or Reserve Service	(TRM)
Fire Brigade Long Service and Good Conduct Medal	(FBLSM)
Rhodesia Badge of Honour	(RBH)
President's Medal for Shooting	(Pres MS)
The Director's Commendation (Prisons)	(Dir Comm-P)
The Secretary for Home Affairs Commendation	(Sec HAC)
The President's Commendation for Brave Conduct	(Pres BC)
The Commissioner's Special Commendation for Bravery	(BSAP CSCB)
The Commissioner's Commendation for Bravery	(BSAP CCB)
His Excellency The Officer Administering the Government's Commendation for Bravery	(Gov CB)
Successful Contact Badge (Guard Force)	(GF SCB)
Commander's Commendation (Guard Force)	(GF CC)
Commander of the Army Commendation	(CAC)
Special Air Service Wings on Chest	(WoC)

### Zimbabwe Medal – 1980 onwards

<b>Medal or Award in order of precedence</b>	<b>Post-Nominal (Abbreviation)</b>
Grand Commander of the Zimbabwe Order of Merit	GCZM
Gold Cross of Zimbabwe	GCZ
Grand Officer of the Zimbabwe Order of Merit	GZM
Commander of the Zimbabwe Order of Merit	CZM
Officer of the Zimbabwe Order of Merit	OZM
Member of the Zimbabwe Order of Merit	MZM
Liberation Decoration	LD
Silver Cross of Zimbabwe	SCZ
Bronze Cross of Zimbabwe	BCZ
Meritorious Service Medal	MSM
Liberation Medal (Silver)	(LM (Silver))
Liberation Medal (Bronze)	(LM (Bronze))
Civil Commendation Medal	(CCM)

Police Commendation Medal	(PCM)
Army Commendation Medal	(ACM)
Air Force Commendation Medal	(AFCM)
Prisons Commendation	(Pris CM)
Independence Medal	(ZIM)
Mozambique Campaign Medal	(MM)
Democratic Republic of Congo Campaign Medal	(DRCM)
Public Service Long Service Medal	(PS LSM)
Medal for Long and Exemplary Service in the Police	(LSM Police)
Medal for Long and Exemplary Service in the Army	(LSM Army)
Medal for Long and Exemplary Service in the Air Force	(LSM Air Force)
Medal for Long and Exemplary Service in the Prison Service	(LSM Prisons)
Efficiency Medal for Police Reserves	(EM Police Res)
Efficiency Medal for Police Auxiliaries	(EM Police Aux)
Efficiency Medal for Army Reserves	(EM Army Res)
Efficiency Medal for Air Force Reserves	(EM Air Force)
Efficiency Medal for Prison Auxiliaries	(EM Prison Aux)
Zimbabwe Service Medal	(ZSM)
President's Medal for Shooting	(Pres MS)
Order of Great Zimbabwe	OGZ
Royal Order of Munhumutapa	ROM
Order of the Star of Zimbabwe	OSZ

**Note: Recipients of the awards whose abbreviations are shown in brackets are not entitled to Post-Nominal letters**

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