

The right to leave the Army

- Discharge as of Right (DAOR) as a New Recruit – Over 18 at date of enlistment. If this is your first enlistment in the Regular Army you have the right to claim your discharge, with no subsequent reserve liability. You may, subject to your completing 28 days' service excluding leave, claim your discharge at any time before the end of 3 months from the date of your enlistment, but you do have to give 14 days' notice to your Commanding Officer.
- Discharge as of Right (DAOR) as a New Recruit - Under 18 at date of enlistment. If this is your first enlistment in the Regular Army you have the right to claim your discharge, with no subsequent reserve liability. You may, subject to your completing 28 days' service excluding leave, claim your discharge at any time before the end of 6 months from the date of your enlistment, but you do have to give 14 days' notice to your Commanding Officer.
- Discharge Under 18 (DU18). In addition to the right to discharge in paragraph 14, all Service personnel retain a right to claim your discharge up to their 18th birthday once the DAOR period has expired. You must give notice in writing to your Commanding Officer before your 18th birthday. After a maximum cooling-off period of 3 months you will then be discharged unless you change your mind about leaving before the date of your discharge.
- Provided that the claim is made within the relevant period, the discharge will be carried out with all convenient speed and you will be allowed to leave the Army. However, if at the time you claim your discharge a Queen's Order has been made ordering that all soldiers who would otherwise be transferred to the Army Reserve shall continue to serve with the Colours, your discharge may be deferred for so long as the Queen's Order remains in force. Such an Order would be made only at a time of national danger or emergency.