Intro To Army Life: A Handbook For Spouses And Significant Others Entering The Army Lifestyle

Foreword by Crystal Cavalier
2011 Army Spouse of the Year

ALLISON MEWES

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Everything you need to know to get through the FIRST YEARS as an army spouse or significant other. Revised and Expanded 2nd Edition. No one hands you a guidebook when you enter Army life; you either learn the hard way or stumble upon resources on your own . . . until now. Intro to Army Life gives you the tools and resources necessary to make your transition into the Army lifestyle easier, less stressful and more fun. You don’t have to learn the hard way--all the information you need is here, ready to help you make the transition. Along with engaging personal narrative and stories, this book includes:-Army hierarchy and social structure -15 tips for dealing with a deployment -Perks of a military ID -Top 25 Army acronyms -Military discounts and how to find them -Top 10 resources for military children -Fun facts, such as where the term military brat originated -and much more Intro to Army Life is a North American Book Award winner, and a must-read for any military spouse or significant other.

I am an Army Wife of 32 years, a dependent daughter of an Army Warrant Officer for my whole life. So between the two I have had 50 years of experience with the military lifestyle. My father and husband are now retired; so I was anxious to read this book so that I could see what Mrs. Mewes had to say. I consider myself a seasoned Army wife, and looked at the book with a critical eye. What...
I found was a wonderful resource for any company commander’s wife to pass out to newly married solders or families that are new to the military lifestyle. When my husband was a company commander 20 years ago in Hawaii, we had so many new wives that were on the island, I wish I had then this resource to help explain what these women should expect. Intro to Army Life is written gender neutral, for our "be all you can be Army", which is pretty awesome. However, my husband was an Army Ranger Infantry Officer and there were not any women that worked with him. That is why I refer to my desire for resources for the wives, because I never had to deal with male spouses. This book was full of information that was easily accessible from other places, rank charts, uniform pictures, chain of command, and branches of the service among other things; however, this book is wonderful because it has everything compiled into one place. Mrs. Mewes also gave a list of the top 25 acronyms, I tested myself before I looked at the answers, and even after 12 years retired I still remember what these mean. Overall, this is a book filled with information for military families to use as a resource. I honestly believe that every company commander’s wife should have a stack of Intro to Army Life ready to pass out.

When my husband joined the Army, I got all his books and studied them. I looked up things I didn’t know on the internet and started reading other military wife blogs and support sites to learn as much as I could. I wish this book, Intro to Army Life, was out then because it covers all the basics of what every spouse needs to learn and learn it quick... and it’s all tucked nicely in one little book. I really liked it how the author keeps things basic and simple. She leaves out a lot of the complicated stuff that just isn’t important your first couple years in the military. Not living on base and meeting a lot of military wives in person, I guess I take it for granted that not all spouses are as into it as I am. While I was thinking of this post, I attended an ROTC event. Some of the cadets where talking about their enlisted lives before joining the ROTC. One of the cadets said, "I used to be an E-5" (which is a Sergeant). I didn’t notice who it was, but one of the wives said, "What’s an E-5?" After I got done chuckling to myself, I thought of Allison Mewes’ book and thought maybe I should get a bunch and pass them out! Intro to Army Life: A handbook for spouses and significant others entering the Army lifestyle, covers everything from ranks, TRICARE, military ID cards, deployment blues, PTSD, uniforms, LES (pay-stub) format, to USO services and the pros and cons of living on and off base. Plus MUCH, MUCH more! I especially loved the LES section, those blasted pay-stubs are like trying to decode a foreign language with no key. This book includes a little easy to read diagram to help those of us with no clue how to decipher the code!
Intro To Army Life: A Handbook for Spouses and Significant Others Entering the Army Lifestyle
Modern Military Spouse: The Ultimate Military Life Guide for New Spouses and Significant Others
Vegetarian: 4-Week Vegetarian Nutrition Cookbook for Everyday Lifestyle - 39 Quick & Easy Vegetarian Meal Plans for Beginners (Healthy Low Carb Vegetarian Recipes for Diet and Lifestyle)
Entering the Summerland: Customs and Rituals of Transition into the Afterlife (World Religion & Magick Series)
Entering the Castle: An Inner Path to God and Your Soul
Entering Jewish Prayer: A Guide to Personal Devotion and the Worship Service
Eat Your Genes: How Genetically Modified Food is Entering Our Diet
My Journey to Lhasa: The Classic Story of the Only Western Woman Who Succeeded in Entering the Forbidden City
Military Divorce Tips: Health Care, CHCBP, USFSPA, SBP, Retirement Benefits, and Law Answers for Service Members and Former Spouses
The Other Side of the Closet: The Coming-Out Crisis for Straight Spouses and Families
Checks for Vets: A Guidebook to Help Wartime Veterans and Their Surviving Spouses Receive VA Pensions
Know When To Hold 'Em: A guide for spouses of problem gamblers
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