

# Swiss Guards: World's oldest standing army gets new headgear

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The world's oldest standing army is getting some new headgear.

The Swiss Guards plan to replace their metal helmets with plastic PVC ones made with a 3-D printer, giving the pope's army cooler and more comfortable headgear when standing guard for hours at a time.

The Swiss Guards unveiled the helmet prototype before their annual swearing-in ceremony Sunday. Thirty-two new recruits—all of them single Swiss men under age 30 and upstanding Catholics—will join the small corps for a minimum two years by pledging to protect the pope and his successors.

Guard spokesman Sgt. Urs Breitenmoser says the new helmets won't be used Sunday. The [army](#) is looking for sponsors for the 880-euro (\$1,050) helmets, which cost about half as much as the old metal ones.

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