

Costume Guide

Short version

“Dress medieval if you can”

We want everyone to have a good time, and we understand that not everyone cares about the details of early C13th fashion. If you dress “medieval” that will be good enough to not look out of place.

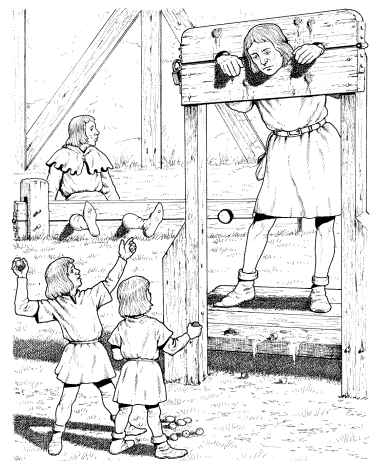
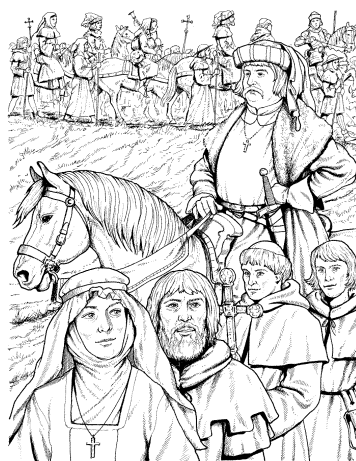
Long version: Men

The basic garment is a [tunic](#) worn over hose leggings, but trousers look fine too. If your tunic is long enough you could get away with knee-high socks. If you're worried about being cold, you can stick a surcoat or another shorter-sleeved tunic over the top, or add a [coif](#), hat, [cloak](#) or [hood](#). Stick a belt, a pouch, and a prop knife on it, and you're done.

Nobles dress like peasants, only fancier: better cloth, more trim, more layers, plus fur, jewellery and accessories. Male nobles should probably carry a sword. If you want to stomp around all night in armour, then that's up to you.

Common footsoldiers dress like peasants, with leather or padded cloth armour and maybe a helmet. Professional men-at-arms and knights wear chain. Avoid plate. Thamesly wear blue and yellow. For Oxford, it is yellow and red. For Gloucester, red and white.

Priests wear long robes and a closed-fronted black [cope](#) or [chasuble](#) and a stole. Bishops carry a mitre and [crosier](#).



Long version: Women

The basic garment is a long, floor-length gown - basically a long [tunic](#). This is worn with hose, but as its so long, no-one will notice. If you are cold, you can add a sleeveless surcoat, and a cloak. In reality women commonly covered their hair with a [coif](#) or [veil](#); in movies they don't. Do whatever works for you. Add a belt, pouch and knife, and you're done.

Noblewomen dress like peasants, only fancier: better cloth, more trim, more layers, plus fur, jewellery and accessories. A distinctive C13th accessory is the [barbette hat](#), basically a pillbox with a cloth chinstrap. Other ideas for headwear and hair can be seen [here](#).

All the nuns in *The Rose and the Dragon* are Dominicans, who wear a white habit, white scapular and black wimple.

