

Part I. Universal Standards for Bushy Run Battlefield Events

The following standards have been compiled in order to present a more accurate living history educational program to Bushy Run Battlefield visitors. These standards are not meant to exclude anyone, but rather to encourage them to bring more appropriate things to the event, while leaving less appropriate things at home. As a general rule of thumb, if something looks like it belongs at a Pirate festival, steampunk con, or fantasy LARP, it is probably not appropriate for this event.

If you have a piece of evidence to suggest that something we say is unacceptable can be documented to your impression, we are happy to amend these standards if provided evidence.

The standards for each impression have items listed as “Best, Better, Acceptable, Discouraged, and Unacceptable.” In many cases items are listed as “Best” over other things because they are best for this event specifically.

Best: This means that this piece of kit is excellent for your impression.

Better: This piece of kit may not be a museum quality reproduction, but it’s still quite good.

Acceptable: Exactly what it sounds like. These are items that won’t get much attention one way or the other.

Discouraged: These are things that fort staff would really prefer you didn’t bring, however they will still be allowed on the field.

Unacceptable: These are things that will not be allowed on the field or in front of the public in the camps. If BRBHS staff see these things, they will ask you to put them away. Refusal to do so can result in ejection from the site, and being disinvited from future events.

The following are things that are universally unacceptable regardless of impression.

1. Fairy/elf/fantasy/science fiction makeup.
2. Pirate costume pieces.
3. Steampunk regalia.
4. Live ammunition.
5. Filled powder horns.
6. Any Native American Indian impression that is not appropriate for the timeframe and place being interpreted for a specific event.
7. Modern food or beverage containers in the open.
8. Modern bedding in the open.
9. Modern tobacco products in front of the public.

Part II. Dress, Accommodations and Anachronisms in the Historic Area.

GENERAL ATTIRE

During a juried event, participants are expected to be in appropriate period dress for the duration of public hours and are highly encouraged to remain in period dress for the duration of the entire event. Non-period uniforms or civilian clothing are not allowed.

MEN'S CLOTHING

Clothing shall be typical mid-eighteenth century clothing as befitting the age, background, and station of the person being portrayed. The following items are not allowed:

- Long fringed buckskins
- Un-fitted small clothes
- Kilts (unless for an approved military portrayal.)

FACIAL HAIR:

For a good and proper 18th Century impression, facial hair is discouraged, as this would have been quite uncommon for this time period. Leaving stubble or a “3 day beard” is permissible.

Military: For those portraying professional military soldiers (ex. 42nd Highlander or 60th RAR), facial hair will not be permitted, as military regulation for the time would not have permitted this.

Native: For those providing a Native American impression, facial hair will not be permitted, as this would not be appropriate.

Civilian: For all others, ridding oneself would be encouraged as this would be a more proper and accurate portrayal of the common man of this time period

WOMEN'S CLOTHING:

Clothing shall be typical mid-eighteenth century clothing as befitting the age, background, and station of the person being portrayed. The following items are not allowed: makeup, nail polish, modern calico prints, off-the shoulder shifts, and bodices. Please cover all modern haircuts with a cap or kerchief.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING:

Accurately clothing children is always a concern as they grow quickly. Colonial children, boys and girls, should generally follow the style of garment worn by their elders **after** the age of five. Children younger than this should be clothed in a linen shift, cap, and a linen or woolen gown, no matter their sex. For Native portrayals, very small children should have a basic trade shirt or shift/chemise. Cotton is acceptable in this case,

as children grow out of expensive clothing quickly. A diaper is acceptable underneath the shirt for modern sanitary purposes. Children may wear center seam moccasins or go barefoot in lieu of appropriate shoes. Plain black leather tied or buckle shoes are also permissible for young children. Native boys do not have to shave their heads, but should either cover their heads, slick back their hair, or keep a ponytail. Children shall be properly attired for their age in the eighteenth century, including footwear (when applicable) at all times.

FOOTWEAR:

Eighteenth-century style shoes or moccasins is encouraged. Modern footwear or "old looking" footwear is discouraged.

Note: Participants who are unable to wear 18th century footwear (example: medical reasons) are permitted to wear modern shoes provided they are close in appearance and are hidden in some manner, such as under gaiters, leggings or petticoats.

EYEWEAR

It is highly recommended that participants wear contacts or eighteenth century style eyewear as wearing modern eyewear detracts from presenting a good period impression.

Unless medically required, tinted glasses or sunglasses are discouraged.

JEWELRY

No modern jewelry or watches.

TOBACCO

No cigarettes or other anachronisms are allowed in view of the public. Visible tobacco use should be period correct ... such as a clay pipe.

FOOD AND DRINK:

All food or drink is to be consumed in eighteenth century period vessels. Cooking ware shall be of an 18th century design - NO speckled ware. Participants are encouraged to consume only period appropriate foods during an event.

CAMP SITES:

Military discipline and courtesy is to be observed while the event is open to the public.

Units are expected to bring their own appropriate period tentage and equipment.

Period camps are to be maintained free of anachronisms, with any modern items hidden by period coverings.

Participants who exhibit anachronisms during public hours will be asked to desist.

All participants are expected to keep their areas clean and free of litter; use caution with candles or lanterns; and clean up after themselves.

Campfires are only allowed using fire rings, supplied by BRBHS. Only a limited number of fire rings are available. Please be considerate of other participants when using the fire rings.

No fire pits may be dug.

All fires must remain supervised. Unsupervised fires will be extinguished and the irresponsible units noted.

MINORS:

Minor children (under 18) are the sole responsibility of their parent or legal guardian. Children are not permitted to run around unattended or play around fires, tools, weapons, or animals at any time. Young children need to be supervised by their parents or legal guardians at all times.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Use of cameras is highly discouraged while attired in period clothing.

FIREARMS:

Firearms cannot be carried by minors at any time. Only adults can handle edged weapons or tools. BRBHS Safety Officers will oversee all activities related to firearms demonstration and inspections and will adhere to guidelines established by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC).

PETS, ALCOHOL AND OTHER AMENITIES:

With the exception of service animals, during the Bushy Run Battlefield Anniversary event, no dogs will be allowed on site.

Current PHMC regulations PROHIBIT reenactors from possession or consumption of alcohol. This regulation includes reenactments at Bushy Run Battlefield.

The BRBHS provides free wood, free water. We DO NOT WANT STRAW — we do not provide it and you should not bring it.

Free meals, if offered, will be provided only to participants in period dress. Times and locations will be announced accordingly.

Participants are entitled to a discount on most purchases in our Museum Shop. If you are not wearing historical clothing at the time of purchase, please identify yourself as a participant before initiating the transaction.

LEADERSHIP, SAFETY AND SECURITY:

A meeting of unit commanders/representatives (Officer's Call) takes place each morning before public activities commence. Location: TBA.

First Aid Stations will be designated during each event and each unit commander/representative will be made familiar with the BRBHS emergency procedures.

Failure to follow the instructions of BRBHS staff and volunteers may result in removal from an event and/or disqualification of an individual or unit from participation in future Bushy Run Battlefield events.

BUSHY RUN BATTLEFIELD WEAPONS AND BLACK POWDER REGULATIONS (IN BRIEF)

Anyone handling edged weapons, small arms weapons, artillery, and/or black powder, is responsible to familiarize themselves with, and act in accordance with the PHMC Historic Arms Safety Manual. A pdf copy of this manual is available at the BRBHS website: <https://bushyrunbattlefield.com/>. A printed copy is available at the museum office, for reference, upon request.

All Individuals participating in firing demonstrations must be seventeen (17) years of age or older to carry and use a weapon (functional or otherwise).

All participants will have their firearms, cartridge boxes, and other weapons inspected by site-appointed safety officers immediately prior to the commencement of each tactical weapons demonstration to ensure that safety standards are properly observed.

Safety Officers have the authority to remove participants found with non-conforming weapons or ammunition.

Flintlock firearms shall be equipped with flash guards and hammerstalls (frizzen covers). Frizzens and cocks will be kept in the full forward position until the weapon is readied for loading.

All firearms must be shown to have a working trigger "safety" mechanism. In flintlock weapons, they should remain at both half-cock and in full-cock positions on their own accord.

All edged weapons fighting axes, swords, pikes, knives, etc., must be properly sheathed. Apart from the use of swords by officers to direct troops, edged weapons are not to be drawn or brandished in opposing force reenactments.

Hand-to-hand combat is prohibited at all times.

Musket cartridges shall be of paper, rolled in the appropriate 18th or 19th century manner and secured in a period manner. Staples or other metallic fasteners are not to be used.

Cartridges for rifles must be made in the same manner as those for muskets.

No bulk black powder, or powder horns containing black powder, shall be permitted in any demonstration area.

Powder horns may be carried but must be empty. Priming horns may contain no more than one (1) ounce of fffg or ffffg powder.

No ramrods may be drawn or used during opposed forces tactical demonstrations.

With exception of special ceremonies or other circumstances, no fixed bayonets or unsheathed edged weapons shall be permitted during tactical weapons demonstrations.

Firearms will be elevated above the heads of opposing tactical weapons demonstration participants before they are discharged.

At the end of a tactical weapons demonstration participants must clear and secure all firearms before leaving the demonstration area.

Unit commanders shall verify that all weapons are cleared prior to the unit leaving the field following the demonstration.

PART III. STANDARDS FOR EASTERN WOODLAND NATIVE AMERICANS

Note: The following describes the general standards expected for those interpreting Eastern Woodland Natives Americans. These standards are not intended to represent any specific tribe or nation.

PART IIIA. STANDARDS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN WARRIORS

HEADWEAR/HAIRSTYLES

Best: Scalp locks or prosthetic scalp locks with hair garters, small hair roaches, small feather clusters, silver hair pipes, ribbons, or silver ring broaches.

Acceptable: Short brim round hats or plain colored bandanas decorated with trade silver.

Unacceptable: Illegal raptor feathers, "trophy" decorations, Plains headdresses, turkey feather headdresses, or British/French regimental equipment.

SHIRTS

Best: White linen shirts or shirtless.

Acceptable: Check shirts, or cotton-linen blend shirts.

Discouraged: Ruffled shirts.

Unacceptable: Black shirts, paisley shirts, striped shirts, cotton calico shirts, or wool shirts.

MATCHCOATS

Best: Matchcoats with minor wool or silk tape decoration, a blanket wrapped around the body.

Unacceptable: Regimental coats, hunting shirts, civil war or olive drab blankets.

BREECHCLOUTS

Best: Breechclout of stroud or wool broadcloth in red, blue, or black. Clouts should end at mid-thigh. Light decoration with silk ribbon, wool taping, and ring brooches.

Discouraged: Excessively long clouts, over-decorated clouts, clouts in other colors, or breeches.

Unacceptable: Trousers.

LEGGINGS

Best: Side seam leggings of wool broadcloth, stroud, or brain tan leather leggings with minor decoration.

Acceptable: Stockings, but this should be kept to a minimum.

Discouraged: Over-decorated leggings or poorly fit leggings.

Unacceptable: Gaiters, spatterdashers, or center seam leggings.

GARTERS/LEG TIES

Best: Fairly plain pattern oblique weave finger woven garters.

Acceptable: Wool strip, tanned deer hide, imitation wampum, or leather garters.

Unacceptable: Inkle and other loom woven garters or European garters.

SASHES

Best: Fairly plain pattern oblique weave finger woven sash or no sash.

Acceptable: Wool strip, tanned deer hide, a tumpline, or "bark belt" sash.

Unacceptable: Highly decorated pattern or assumption sashes.

FOOTWEAR

Best: Pucker toe or vamp toe moccasins.

Acceptable: Center seam moccasins or European buckled shoes.

Unacceptable: Modern shoes, Dyer moccasins, low boots, or calf length moccasins.

BAGS

Best: Quilled animal hide or finger woven wool bags.

Acceptable: Slit pouches, draw string, plain animal hide, or twined bags.

Unacceptable: Cartridge boxes, belly boxes, or other British/French regimental equipment.

POWDER HORN

Powder horns will be carried as a decorative item. No powder horn will be permitted to contain any black powder at the event.

JEWELRY/ACCESSORIES

Best: Ball and cone or triangle style ear/nose bobs, small silver crosses, silver or brass pendants, sterling silver or brass armbands, brass or silver bracelets, necklaces of common (documentable) trade beads.

Acceptable: Shell or silver gorgets. Most gorgets were worn by leaders so this should be kept to a minimum. Period correct glasses.

Discouraged: Ear wheels, trade wampum chokers, scalps, or trophy coats.

Unacceptable: Fleur de lis ear/nose bobs, contemporary accessories.

FIREARMS

All firearms must have a frizzen stall and a flash guard.

Best: Trade guns, fusil de chasse, fusil de traite.

Acceptable: Fowlers, rifles, military muskets.

Unacceptable: Rifles or muskets that postdate the 18th century or blunderbuss.

WEAPONS

Acceptable: Ball-headed clubs, quilled neck knives, belt knives, bow and arrow, or tomahawks.

All knives and tomahawks are great for display items but all must be able to be securely sheathed for safety.

WAR PAINT

Best: Basic designs with an iron oxide red, minimal black, or light tattoo designs.

Unacceptable: Bright red, white, green, or yellow.

MISCELLANEOUS

Acceptable: Period correct glasses and footwear are strongly encouraged but if there is a medical reason why an individual must wear modern footwear or glasses please let Bushy Run know ahead of the event.

Part IIIB: Standards for Native Women at Bushy Run 1763

HEADWEAR/HAIRSTYLES

Best: A single low braid wrapped in silk ribbon, wool taping, or silver bands with paint along the forehead and part.

Acceptable: Felt round hats.

Unacceptable: Cocked hats, top hats, Plains headdresses, straw hats, fur hats, voyager hats.

SHIRTS/SHIFTS

Best: Hand sewn trade shirts of white linen with narrow cuffs and ruffles.

Acceptable: Cotton, Cotton- linen blend, checked shirts.

Unacceptable: Black shirts, modern shirts, wool shirts, paisley shirts, calico shirts worn as outer garment.

MATCHCOATS

Best: Matchcoats with minor wool or silk tape decoration, a blanket wrapped around the body.

Unacceptable: Regimental coats, fringed leather capes, hunting shirts, civil war or olive drab blankets.

SKIRTS

Best: Mildly decorated wrap skirts of woolen material with wool taping or silk ribbon decoration.

Unacceptable: European skirts or gowns, buckskin dresses, breeches, trousers, breech clouts, modern skirts.

LEGWEAR

Best: Side seam leggings of wool broadcloth or stroud with minor bead, wool taping, or silk ribbon decoration.

Garters of wool strips, an oblique finger woven, leather strips, or eelskin.

Acceptable: European stockings, leather leggings, or nothing.

Discouraged: Over-decorated leggings or poorly fit leggings.

Unacceptable: Gaiters, spaterdashers, inkle and other loom woven garters or European garters.

FOOTWEAR

Best: Pucker toe or vamp toe moccasins.

Acceptable: Center seam moccasins or European buckled shoes.

Unacceptable: Modern shoes, Dyer moccasins, low boots, or calf length moccasins.

ACCESSORIES

Best: Ball and cone or triangle style ear bobs, small silver crosses, silver or brass pendants, bracelets of silver or brass, necklaces of common (documentable) trade beads, shell earrings or pendants.

Acceptable: Trade silver, period correct glasses.

Unacceptable: Ear wheels, fleur de lis ear bobs, nose bobs, contemporary accessories.

Part IV: Standards for British Regular Troops.

HATS AND CAPS:

Best: Round blocked wool felt hats, worn round with a short brim or cocked.

Better: Same as above but oval blocked, grenadier caps on grenadier impressions, cocked hats.

Unacceptable: Slouch hats, straw hats, fur caps, voyager caps, glengarry caps, top hats.

NECKWEAR:

Best: Hand stitched neckerchief of silk, linen, or cotton. Linen Stocks or rollers.

Better: As above, but machine stitched.

Acceptable: Horsehair or leather stocks.

Unacceptable: No neckwear.

SHIRTS:

Best: Hand stitched white or checked linen shirt with short collar, short cuffs, and thread buttons or made for sleeve buttons (cuff links)

Better: Machine stitched white or checked linen shirts.

Acceptable: Machine stitched white or checked cotton shirts.

Unacceptable: Modern dress shirts, plaid shirts, cotton calico shirts (unless kept under other acceptable garments)

COATS

Best: Well fit, hand stitched British regimental coats, laced or unlaced, full length or cut down.

Acceptable: Well fit, machine stitched British regimental coats.

Discouraged: Poorly fit coats.

Unacceptable: Hunting shirts, Blanket shirts, furs.

WAISTCOATS:

Best: Hand stitched regimental waistcoats, well fit, with or without lace.

Acceptable: Machine stitched regimental waistcoats, well fit, with or without lace.

Discouraged: Poorly fit waistcoats.

Unacceptable: Waistcoats of cotton canvas, upholstery fabric, or wearing only a waistcoat as an outer garment (except during extreme weather and manual labor.)

BREECHES:

Best: Hand stitched, well fit breeches of red wool, leather, or coarse linen.

Acceptable: Machine stitched breeches of the same as above, well fit.

Discouraged: Poorly fit or baggy breeches.

Unacceptable: Fringed trousers, rev war era overalls, any sort of modern pants (Khakis, jeans, carharts, etc.)

LEGWEAR:

Best: "Knox leggings" (Native style leggings with a toecap and under foot strap) of wool with the seam allowance tied to the front of the leg, secured by strips of the same material.

Better: Black Canvas gaiters, Indian leggings.

Acceptable: White canvas gaiters.

Discouraged: Poorly fit/baggy legwear.

Unacceptable: Spatterdashers, leather leggings, mixing European gaiters with Native legwear or vice versa.

SHOES:

Best: Hand-made 18th c. style buckled shoes.

Better: Same as above, but machine assembled

Acceptable: Pucker toe or vamp style moccasins, if worn with Knox/native leggings.

Unacceptable: Obviously modern shoes, modern moccasins, officers' boots on enlisted soldiers.

CARTRIDGE POUCHES:

Best: British 20 round 3 buckle pouch on a buff strap.

Better: 9-12 round government sets coupled with a plain powder horn and shot pouch.

Acceptable: Rev War style 21 round pouches converted to 68 warrant specs, 18 round government set boxes.

Unacceptable: Hard body cartridge boxes not listed above, possibles bags, tin boxes.

ARMS:

Best: Long Land pattern muskets.

Better: Dutch muskets, military contract muskets or fusils.

Acceptable: Short Land muskets.

Unacceptable: French arms, blunderbus, cavalry carbines, rifles, canoe guns.

SIDEARMS:

Best: Bayonet carried on a buff waistbelt.

Acceptable: Enlisted swords or small axes carried on a buff waistbelt.

Unacceptable: Daggers, pistols, dirks, officer's swords on enlisted soldiers

WATER CARRYING:

Best: Kidney shaped tin canteens.

Acceptable: Kidney shaped canteens made of imitation materials, steel, etc. Other shapes of tin canteen.

Unacceptable: Gourds, cheesebox or staved canteens, glass bottles.

Part V: Standards for 1759 Provincial Troop

HATS:

Best: Round blocked round hats with 2-3 inch Brims.

Better: Other 1750s civilian hats, cocked hats.

Acceptable: Oval blocked round or cocked hats.

Unacceptable: Straw hats, voyager hats, fur hats, glengarry caps, top hats.

NECKWEAR:

Best: Hand hemmed neckerchiefs or rollers of linen, silk, or cotton.

Better: Same as above, but machine hemmed.

Unacceptable: Horsehair or leather stocks, no neckwear.

COATS:

Best: Well fit, hand sewn, regimentals of green or drab wool broadcloth.

Better: Blue faced red provincial coats, civilian coats.

Discouraged: Baggy coats.

Unacceptable: No coat in absence of other sleeved garment, Regular British army coats, 1770s coats, blanket coats, hunting shirts.

WAISTCOATS:

Best: Well fit, hand sewn civilian style wool or linen waistcoats.

Better: Well fit waistcoats with machine stitching.

Discouraged: Poorly fit waistcoats, cotton canvas waistcoats.

Unacceptable: Upholstery fabric waistcoats, excessively long waistcoats.

BREECHES/TROUSERS:

Best: Well fit, Hand sewn breeches of leather, wool, or linen.

Better: Linen trousers, machine sewn breeches.

Discouraged: Baggy breeches, cotton or cotton canvas breeches.

Unacceptable: Fringed trousers, modern pants of any kind, 19th century trousers.

LEGWEAR:

Best: Indian leggings in "Knox" style, with an underfoot strap and toecap, secured with strips of the same wool material as the leggings.

Better: Just stockings, regular Indian leggings.

Acceptable: Military gaiters.

Discouraged: Baggy legwear.

Unacceptable: Buckskin leggings, rev war spatterdashers, leggings secured by buckles.

SHOES:

Best: Hand-made 18th century style buckled shoes.

Better: Machine made 18th century style buckled Shoes.

Acceptable: Center Seam moccasins, shoes with ties, half boots.

Unacceptable: Officers boots on enlisted men, contemporary moccasins, 19th century boots, and obviously modern footwear.

ARMS:

Best: Long Land Pattern Muskets, Civilian fowlers, French muskets.

Acceptable: Rifles

Unacceptable: Blunderbuss, canoe guns.

AMMUNITION CARRYING:

Best: Plain leather shot pouch carried with or without 9-12 round government set and a plain empty powder horn.

Better: 18 round government sets.

Discouraged: British military cartridge pouches

Unacceptable: Possibles bags, solid body cartridge boxes, haversacks as cartridge boxes, other textile shot bags.

SIDEARMS:

Best: Bayonet, hunting sword, hatchet, or nothing.

Acceptable: Cutlass in certain contexts (IE Carolina provincials)

Unacceptable: Dirks, daggers, pistols.

CANTEENS:

Best: British tin kidney shaped canteens, cheesebox canteens, staved canteens.

Better: Other shapes of tin canteen.

Acceptable: Steel canteens, gourd canteens, covered bottle canteens.

Unacceptable: 17th century leather canteens, civil war canteens.

PART VI: STANDARDS FOR 1759 RANGERS

HATS:

Best: Knit scotch bonnets, round blocked round hats.

Better: Oval blocked round hats, Jockey/light caps (like the ones in period portraits of Rogers or Butler.)

Acceptable: Other scotch bonnets

Unacceptable: French hats, voyager hats, fur hats, glengarry caps.

NECKWEAR:

Best: Hand hemmed Silk, linen, or cotton neckerchiefs or linen rollers.

Better: As above but machine hemmed.

Unacceptable: Leather or horsehair stocks, no neckwear.

COATS:

Best: Well fit hand sewn Green, blue, or brown wool coats in military or hunting styles.

Better: Other 1750s civilian wool coats in appropriate colors, machine sewn coats.

Discouraged: Baggy coats.

Unacceptable: Regular army coats, shirts or waistcoats worn as an outer garment (extreme heat excepted) hunting shirts, blanket coats.

WAISTCOATS:

Best: Well fit hand sewn woolen waistcoats in 1750s styles (single or double breasted, sleeved or not)

Better: Sleeved waistcoats worn as an outer garment, machine sewn waistcoats.

Discouraged: Baggy waistcoats.

Unacceptable: Regimental waistcoats, round cut waistcoats, waistcoats made of cotton canvas or upholstery fabric, very long tailed waistcoats.

BREECHES:

Best: Well fit hand sewn breeches of wool, linen, or leather.

Better: Wool or linen trousers, machine sewn breeches/trousers.

Discouraged: Poorly fit breeches or trousers, military/regimental breeches.

Unacceptable: Gaitered trousers, fringed trousers.

LEGWEAR:

Best: Well fit wool Indian Leggings secured with wool strips, or native style garters.

Acceptable: None if wearing trousers.

Discouraged: Baggy legwear.

Unacceptable: Military gaiters, buckskin leggings.

SHOES:

Best: Handmade 18th century buckled shoes, pucker toe moccasins.

Better: Vamp toe moccasins, machine made 18th century buckled shoes.

Acceptable: Half boots.

Unacceptable: Contemporary moccasins, obviously modern shoes.

ARMS:

Best: Long Land Pattern muskets, Fowlers.

Better: Dutch or early French muskets.

Acceptable: Short Land Pattern muskets, 1750s style rifles.

Unacceptable: Golden age or plains rifles, Canoe guns, blunderbuss.

AMMUNITION CARRYING:

Best: Small Leather shot bag carried on a waistbelt w/ a plain (and empty) powder horn.

Better: 9-12 round government set boxes, shot bags carried by the shoulder.

Acceptable: Native style shot pouches.

Discouraged: British army cartridge pouches.

Unacceptable: Possibles bags, haversacks as cartridge pouches, tin cartridge pouches, French cartridge pouches.

CANTEENS:

Best: Cheesebox or staved canteens.

Better: British tin canteens

Acceptable: Stainless steel canteens.

Discouraged: Ceramic or glass bottles.

Unacceptable: 17th century leather canteens.

PART VII: BRITISH ADULT FEMALE FOLLOWERS.

General Notes

****It should always be remembered that certain fabrics and styles are more appropriate to one impression than another. For example, it is perfectly acceptable for an officer's wife to wear a silk gown or a riding habit, but not for a camp follower or laundress.**

****Garments should be pressed. This doesn't mean that they are "band box perfect" but that they should have been ironed the last time they were washed. Wrinkles are certainly acceptable and part of the nature of some fabrics but they should, at some point, have been introduced to an iron, especially caps, neckerchiefs and aprons.**

**** Know your impression!**

SHIFTS/CHEMISE:

Best: Hand stitched white linen, hemp or fine cotton shift with fitted cuffs and elbow length sleeves, ties or links closing the cuffs. Remember fine cotton shifts were worn by the wealthy.

Better: Machine stitched white linen, fine cotton, or hemp shifts

Acceptable: Above but with drawstring cuffs, cotton muslin shifts

Unacceptable: Shifts of any color but white, shifts worn up by the collar bone, or worn with the neckline over the shoulders. Long sleeves, shifts showing below the hem of the petticoats, only wearing a shift and no upper garment.

STOCKINGS:

Best: Hand knit wool, silk or linen stockings, woven, or knit garters

Better: Machine made wool, linen or cotton stockings, and cotton twill tape garters

Discouraged: Horizontally striped stockings, athletic stockings, modern knee socks

*****An impression of the poorest sort could have holey and/or patched stockings or none at all.**

SHOES:

Best: Handmade 18th c. style buckled shoes, sabot, souliers de boeuf (beef shoes), and mules

Better: Same as above, but machine assembled

Discouraged: Modern shoes designed or reconfigured into an 18th century silhouette. If new to reenacting, a modern leather shoe in black or brown of a nondescript nature that does not draw attention.

Unacceptable: Obviously modern shoes, modern moccasins, bare feet – while the latter is correct, it does not meet modern health and safety site standards and requirements.

UPPER BODY SUPPORT:

*** Good underwear is the hanger that allows your other clothes to hang properly and will go a long way in making less than perfect items look, feel, and move better.

Best: Well fit, hand stitched stays which create an appropriate conical shape, made of plain linen, silk, or worsted wool exterior fabric. Well-made leather stays are also acceptable for the British servants. Corset Blanc can be worn by those portraying French.

Better: Well fit stays/Corset Blanc with no visible machine stitching

Acceptable: Visible machine stitching or inappropriate fabrics when worn under an upper garment, bedgown worn with a sports bra.

Unacceptable: 19th century corsets, bustiers, or any other tight fitting garment that ends below the bust.

PETTICOATS/JUPON:

Best: Two or more hand stitched full-bodied (2.5 – 3yds wide) petticoats made from linen, hemp, wool flannel, or light weight wools, small hems or bound by tape, pleated to a waistband with pocket slits at the sides. They may also be quilted. French length: mid to lower calf, British Length: lower calf to ankle. Stripes and colors consistent with 18th century fabrics and design.

Better: Two or more machine sewn petticoats of the appropriate lengths, width, and fabric

Discouraged: Only one petticoat, longer petticoat worn under a shorter top petticoat

Unacceptable: Modern skirts, inappropriate fabrics for a petticoat (e.g. check of any sort, paisley prints, and modern calico/quilting cotton petticoats), horizontal tucks at the bottom of a petticoat for women, but which is perfectly acceptable for pre-adolescent children.

**It should be remembered that upper class women used upper class fabrics – silk or fine wools and cotton. These petticoats would also have the proper supports in the way of pocket hoops or hip pads. Don't wear high class garments with lower class underwear and vice versa. Lower class women engaged in manual labor would wear shorter petticoats than those of their less-active mistresses.

UPPER BODY GARMENTS

Best: Well fit, hand stitched stomacher-front gown, jacket, juste, or bedgown/manteaux de lit in the style of the 1750s made of linen, hemp, printed cotton, or lightweight wool. French women also wore a jacket with removable sleeves that tied to the body of the garment. Again, for best, this should be hand sewn in the appropriate fabrics.

Better: Well fit, machine sewn jacket, gown, or bedgown with hand-stitched details such as hems and decorative trims.

Acceptable: Well fit, machine stitched gown, jacket, or bedgown

Discouraged: Poorly fit garments, visible front-closing gown, short gowns, only stays and shift (unless terribly hot or demonstrating laundry or other hard labor.)

Unacceptable: Fitted garments (e.g. jackets, gowns) without stays, sleeveless "bodices" on British army followers (French bodices should have ribbon ties to fasten the separate sleeves). Fabrics and colors that are inappropriate for the 1750s (e.g. paisley, modern calico, cabbage roses, aniline dyes or certain upholstery fabrics.) are also unacceptable.

APRONS/TABLIERS:

Best: Hand-sewn white or checked, striped, or natural hemp, linen or wool, length close to the petticoat, width of at least a yard, ties from thin linen, cotton or woven tape. Young girls may wear bib-aprons regardless of ethnicity.

Discouraged: self-fabric ties, less than a yard in width, very short work aprons, floral printed fabrics, and British women wearing bibbed aprons.

CAPS/COIFFE:

Best: Hand sewn white linen, fine cotton or hemp, caps in a style of the 1750s, may be trimmed with ribbon, well starched and pressed

Acceptable: Machine sewn caps in linen or fine cotton, starched and pressed.

Discouraged: Unpressed machine sewn caps, quilting cotton, 1770s style caps

Unacceptable: Mob caps, no caps, colored caps, caps worn over the forehead, hair hanging down out of the cap.

HAIR:

Best: All hair put up in a bun or twist on the top back of the head, well secured under the cap some hair showing around the forehead.

Unacceptable: Bangs down on the forehead, hair hanging down and showing under the cap.

JEWELRY:

*** Jewelry must be consistent with the class of individual portrayed.

Best: Appropriate 18th century documented jewelry, females may wear a ribbon around the neck, and French women could wear a crucifix.

Acceptable: Clear retainers in facial or modern ear piercings, wedding rings

Discouraged: engagement rings (we have had many people lose these, we would hate for this to happen to anyone else)

Unacceptable: Metal or colored plastic facial and non -lobe ear jewelry, wrist watches and Fit Bits.

POCKETS, BAGS, BASKETS:

Best: Hand stitched, plain or embroidered pocket(s) worn under the petticoats, market wallets

Better: Machine sewn pocket(s), baskets

Discouraged: Pockets worn above the petticoats and showing, Haversacks or purses, modern baskets, leather belt with knives worn around the waist.

EYE WEAR AND MISCELLANEOUS ACCESSORIES:

Best: Period appropriate glasses, contacts

Discouraged: Modern eye wear, sunglasses, large knives

Unacceptable: Swords, leather belts, colored nail polish

HATS:

Best: Straw, wool felt, or fabric covered flat hat with a shallow crown, or Coif/Hood hand stitched in linen, silk, or hemp.

Acceptable: Silk Bonnets

Unacceptable: Straw hat with modern rounded crowns, Slouch hats, fur caps, voyager caps, glengarry caps.

NECKWEAR:

Best: Well-pressed, hand stitched neckerchief/fichu of silk, linen, light-weight wool, or cotton.

Better: As above, but machine stitched.

Unacceptable: Printed cotton in modern designs and colors (e.g. Paisley prints)

CLOAKS AND OUTERWEAR:

Best: Hand-sewn Red, blue, or brown wool cloak closed with ties, knitted or sewn wool, linen or silk mitts. The cloak can be long or short, with or without a hood. Muffs in wool, silk or appropriate fur are acceptable.

Discouraged: gloves, or fingerless gloves (remember you can wear gloves under a pair of mittens!) Unless they are leather.

Unacceptable: Crotched items, renaissance fair/fantasy style cloaks