

Making and Understanding Garb in the Current Middle Ages: An Introduction

Information Compiled by Sabrina de la Bere
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I. General Sites with Patterns:

Forward into the Past: An Introductory Guide to the S.C.A

<http://www.ansteorra.org/regnum/hospitaler/articles/fip.htm>

-- includes the All Purpose T-tunic pattern (right)
"Take the following measurements, being sure to add an additional 1/2" for seams.

- 1 Neck to floor, or wherever you plan to stop (plus 2" for hem)
- 2 Neck to waist
- 3 Neck to widest part of chest
- 4 1/4 waist plus 1" ease or more, depending on style (plus 1/2" seam allowance)
- 5 1/4 chest plus 1" ease or more depending on style (plus 1/2" seam allowance)
- 6 2" for an armpit gusset
- 7 As wide as your most comfortable shirt sleeves (plus 1/2" seam allowance)"

Your First Garb

<http://www.reconstructinghistory.com/beginners/FirstGarb.html>

-- good basic advice to guide you through the choices presented when making garb

Introduction to Basic Medieval Patterns

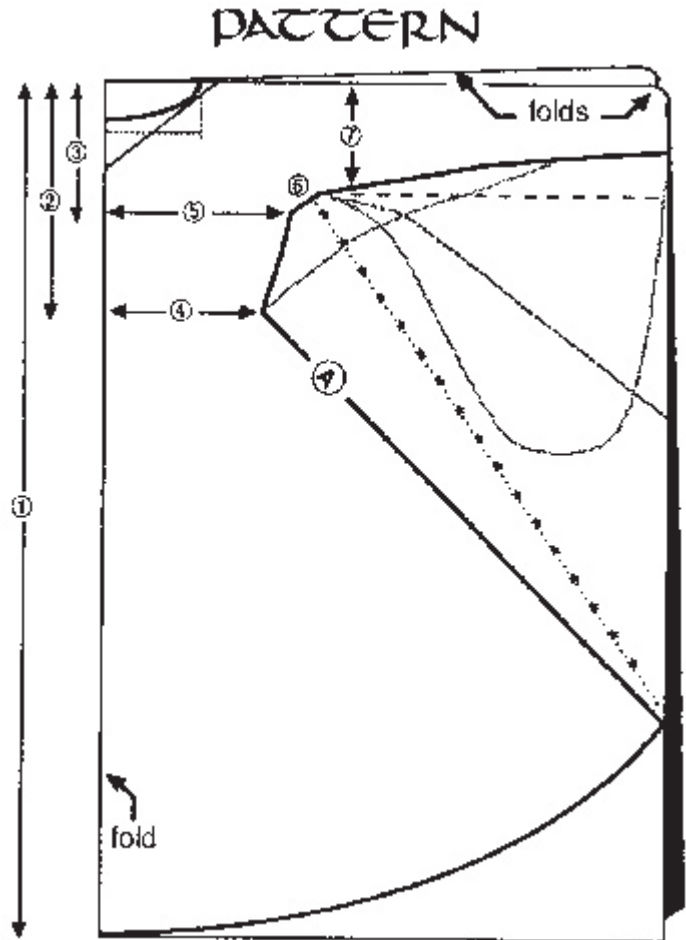
<http://ece.uwaterloo.ca/~arnora/arnora/costumehdbk.htm>

-- some basic information on clothing lines for men and women 5th - 16th C.

Kyrtles/Cotes/Tunics/Gowns - by type (or by time)

<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carlson/cloth/tunics.html>

-- Marc Carlson's pages with drawings of the construction of extent garments



II. Sites on Specific Time Periods or Cultures with Pattern Information

A. Roman

Roman Clothing (Men) <http://www.vroma.org/~bmcmanus/clothing.html>

Roman Clothing: Women <http://www.vroma.org/~bmcmanus/clothing2.html>

B. 5th-11th C.

Clothed Seemly and Proper: The Saxons

<http://users.iafrica.com/m/me/melissant/costume/saxon.htm>

T-Tunic - the Period Way (the bog man's tunic)

<http://www.forest.gen.nz/Medieval/articles/Tunics/TUNICS.HTML>

(right - drawing from the Historic Tale Construction kit)

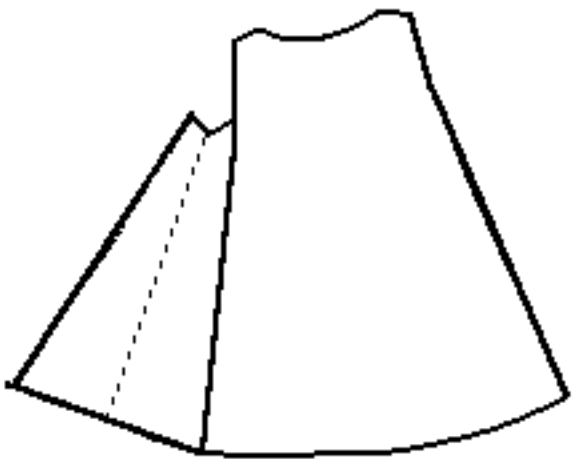


Viking Tunic Construction
<http://www.cs.vassar.edu/~ecapriest/viktunic.html>
 10th C. Danish Apron Dress, a hypothetical reconstruction
<http://www.cs.vassar.edu/~ecapriest/image/apdress.jpg>
 Vigdis' Viking Apron Dress
<http://www.silverdor.org/viking/vikingad.html>
 Viking/Norse Underdress
<http://www.silverdor.org/viking/underdress.html>
 C. 12th & 13th C.

Clothing of the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries
<http://www.geocities.com/douziemesiecle/how.html>
 Shirts/Chemises/Smocks
<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carlson/cloth/shirts.html>

Your First Garb: The Tunic of St. Louis
<http://www.reconstructinghistory.com/beginners/StLouis.html>

D. 14th C.
 (see Marc Carlson's Kyrtles site (prior listing) for the



Herjolfsnes finds & shirts site)
 E. Accessories
 Shoes:
 Footwear of the Middle Ages

<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carlson/shoe/SHOEHOME.HTM>

Hoods, Chaperons and Liripipes
<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carlson/cloth/hoods.html>

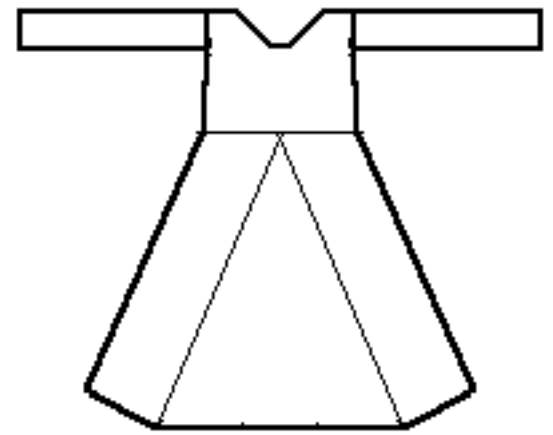
How to make a Coif
<http://www.virtue.to/articles/coif.html>

III. Stitching the Item Together

Archaeological Sewing by Tangwystyl verch Morgant Glasvryn (sorry no diagrams, but you can talk to the author in person at most Collegiums in the Kingdom of the West)

http://www.virtue.to/guest_authors/archaeological_sewing.html

Herjolfsnes no. 37 - mid-late 14th C.
 - presumed to be a man's tunic - has side slits for "pockets" (reach through to pouch on inner belt) - website of Marc Carlson



Tunic Type 3 - "Garments comprising two straight cut main pieces - front and back - jointed together with a shoulder seam. Gores inserted in the middle of the main pieces. No side gores. Sleeve design indeterminate. Neck slitscan occur."
 - website of Marc Carlson
 [note there is NO seam at waist and this is presumed to be an under garment]

Sewing Stitches Used in Medieval Clothing (correlation of extant items)
<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/~marc-carlson/cloth/stitches.htm>

Dark Age Stitch Types (with diagrams)
http://www.42nd-dimension.com/NFPS/nfps_stitches.html

IV. Fabrics

Wool - felt, twill, unfulled for main garment, fulled/boiled wool for cape

Manesse Codex 1305-40
<http://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/cpg848>

Tafel 27 Graf Otto von Botenlauben
 Tafel 32v Herr Heinrich von Sax



Theatrum Sanitatis Ms 4182 Biblioteca Casanatense, Rome Folio LXVIII & LXIX 14th C. <http://www.moleiro.com/base.php?libro=TS&idioma=en>

(below)
Making Snares and Feeding Dogs in Livre de la chasse by Gaston Phebus (1331-1391) MS M. 1044 (fol. 45) - The Morgan Library



drawings and lots detailed information.

Dress in Anglo-Saxon England, by Gale R. Owen-Crocker. Revised edition published by Boydell Press, Woodbridge, 2004. ISBN 1 84393 081 7.

Excellent book for this era and covers the influences and groups that become the Anglo-Saxons.

Garb Introduction with Sabrina de la Bere Collegium Occidentalis

Linen - 3.5 oz for undergarments/dresses/chemises, 5.6-6 oz for shirt or dress.

Silk - heavier woven silks for outer garments, fine silk for undergarments - mostly for later time periods.

Color - natural dyes = nature colors (think vegetation, insects, stone).

Note that some wool outfits were then lined with linen and some finer linen dresses lined with silk.

V. Garment Openings and Closings

Ties - twisted light cording, fingerloop braided cording, "bias tape" sewn closed.



Buttons - fabric stuffed, bone, wood, or leather with button holes or loops.
 Pins - straight pins with glass heads, fibula, penannular, or annular.

VI. Books to Start Patterns for

Theatrical Costume, by Katherine Strand Holkeboer. Published by Prentice-Hall Inc. NJ. 1984. ISBN 0-13-654278-6.

Book has lots of basic lines for costumes that are close to the historical garments. You will need to be able to scale up and resize for fit.

The Medieval Tailor's Assistant: Making Common Garments 1200-1500, by Sarah Thursfield. Published by Costume & Fashion Press, CA. 2001 ISBN 0-89676-239-4.

Probably the best of the basic introductory how-to books for the current middle ages. Lots of good advice and basic finishing to make the garments look good and close to period.

VII. Books for Refining Your Costuming Into More Period Garb.

Textiles and Clothing c. 1150-1450 by Elisabeth Crowfoot, Frances Pritchard, and Kay Staniland. Published by HMSO, Museum of London. 1992. ISBN 0 11 290445 9.

One of a series on actual finds from London archeological digs. Excellent