

From Coifs to Cage Crinolines- Documentation for Presentation at Old York Historical Society, March 21, 2026. By Kristel Henry and Hannah Hasbrouck

17th Century:



Smocks were worn next to the body under the pair of bodies and the outer clothing. Examples of linen smocks with blackwork embroidery, circa 1600 can be found at the Fashion Museum Bath, UK; <https://www.fashionmuseum.co.uk/>

Left above: Copy of German Pfaltzgräfin Dorothea Sabine von Neuberg's pair of bodies as seen in Arnold, Janet, *Patterns of Fashion 3: The Cut and Construction of Clothes for Men and Women c. 1560-1620*, The School of Historical Dress, 1985, pp. 47, 112-113. Partially boned with baleen. For more information see <http://www.elizabethancostume.net/corsets/history.html>

Right above: Copy of English, Queen Elizabeth Effigy Bodies, 1602, Westminster Abbey, London UK. Fully boned with baleen. Detailed write-up by Janet Arnold in the Westminster Library. Photograph in Waugh, Norah, *Corsets and Crinolines*, B.T. Batsford Limited, London, 1954, p. 52. Reproduction bodies made by RedThreaded. More information: <http://www.elizabethancostume.net/effigy.htm>

Unboned, bodiced petticoats, stiffened with buckram were much more common. Example image:

https://www.christies.com/lot/lot-entourage-de-pieter-balten-kermesse-flamande-5404702/?utm_source=Pinterest&utm_medium=organic. Excellent examples of reproduction bodiced petticoats can be found at <https://reine-de-coudre.livejournal.com/215552.html>

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Extant baleen busk (fits in pocket in repro Dorothea bodies) and baleen stays (boning). Private collection.



Left above: Reproduction 1620s jacket. Inspiration: Margaret Layton (Laton) portrait and extant jacket, V&A Museum, London UK. Portrait by Marcus Gheeraerts the Younger, 1620.

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O69443/margaret-layton-formerly-laton-oil-painting-gh>

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[eeraerts-marcus-the/](#) Right above: Detail of reproduction petticoat with cartridge pleating at waist. Patterns from the Tudor Tailor. <https://www.tudortailor.com/>



Reproduction of 1630s slashed silk jacket, V&A Museum, London, UK
<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O115754/bodice-unknown/> Reproduction jacket pattern from Reconstructing History, <https://reconstructinghistory.com/>



Reproduction 17th century shoes, American Duchess

Examples: 17th century shoes, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
<https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/collection> , Slashed leather shoes, 17th century, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, UK
<https://images.ashmolean.org/search/?searchQuery=%20leather>

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Left: Reproduction linen 17th century coif (pronounced “coyf” rather than “cwaf” as in hairdo) Examples: extant coif V&A Museum, London, UK. <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O13582/coif/coif-unknown/>, Extant coif, MFA, Boston, MA <https://collections.mfa.org/objects/66155>

Right: Reproduction hat from Plimoth Patuxet Museum, Plymouth, MA. Examples: 16th-17th century felt hat found in peat bogs, Tawnamore, County Sligo, Ireland. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25509794>, Beaver hat belonging to Constance Hopkins (Mayflower passenger), Pilgrim Hall Museum <https://www.pilgrimhall.org/>

Example of tall pointed hat: Portrait of Mrs. Salisbury (Salesbury) and Her Grandchildren by John Michael Wright, 1675-6 <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/wright-portrait-of-mrs-salesbury-with-her-grandchildren-edward-and-elizabeth-bagot-t06750> Note that Mrs. Salesbury is wearing a fashionable hat for the 3rd to 4th quarters of the 17th century. She’s not a witch, but this provides an idea of how the costume witch hat came about.

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Later 17th century, transitioning away from “pilgrim” style toward styles common in the 18th century.



Left: Reproduction (by Redthreaded) of mid to late 17th century stays. V&A Museum, London, UK <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O10446/stays-and-busk-unknown/>.

Right: Reproduction late 17th century shoes by Redthreaded. Example shoes 1690-1710, Met Museum <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/156196>



Late in the 17th century, gowns (called mantuas) began to transition toward the typical style found in the 18th century. Reproduction mantua: Photo courtesy Chelsey Knyff at <https://bhistorical.com/> (used by permission). Example: Late 17th century mantua (1680-1700) with fontange headdress, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/81718>

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18th Century:



Reproduction shift with cuff and sleeve link detail. Example: Late 18th century shift, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/324250/womans-shift?ctx=b3ac88ef-1c58-46d2-8170-6f0af7963fca&idx=31>

Instructions for making a shift: <https://sharonburnston.com/shifts/shifts.html>

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Extant 18th century wedding stays with RI provenance, held in a private collection. The size, when held fully open, is comparable in size to the reproduction stays. Not every bride was tiny! Reproduction stays made by Silly Sisters (no longer in business) using the JP Ryan pattern. <https://www.jpryan.com/product-page/bodice-pattern>

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Reproduction wooden busk. Busks were often elaborately carved and given as gifts



Reproduction front and back lacing stays, Larkin & Smith
<https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/collections/patterns/18th-century-stays>, pocket hoops, and petticoat. Examples: Pocket hoop, V&A Museum, <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1505036/pocket-hoop-unknown/> Underpinnings with small pannier (side hoops) V&A Museum, London, UK, <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O13863/side-hoop-a-schabner/> Pattern: JP Ryan Pocket Hoops <https://www.jpryan.com/product-page/late-18th-century-pocket-hoops>

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Except for quilted or embroidered versions, it is difficult to find extant petticoats. Most were knife pleated to a tape waistband and were tied on.



Reproduction quilted petticoat. Reproduction crewel on linen embroidered petticoat made by the late Barbara Delorey of Plymouth, MA around the time of the bicentennial.

Quilted and embroidered petticoats, MFA, Boston, MA

<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/117000/petticoat?ctx=9e42932c-cf07-405b-b7fc-d6f71642cdea&idx=6>

<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/117000/petticoat?ctx=9e42932c-cf07-405b-b7fc-d6f71642cdea&idx=6>

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Above: This style gown was common for most of the 18th century with slight variations. Top- 2nd quarter 18th century styles. Bottom, 1770s style. Pattern: Larkin and Smith English Gown

<https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/products/18th-century-english-gown>

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Example: Mrs. Washington's brown silk gown (missing stomacher).

<https://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/18th-century-sewing-demo-refashioned-gowns>.



Reproduction 1750-70 green silk taffeta robe a'la francaise gown. Pattern: JP Ryan Pet-en-l'air (lengthened) <https://www.jpryan.com/product-page/pet-en-l-air> Example: Yellow silk sacque back (robe a' la francaise) gown, Met Museum, NY <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/79220>

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Left: Reproduction brown linen and block printed chintz gowns. Pattern: Larkin and Smith English Gown

<https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/products/18th-century-english-gown>

Right: reproduction 1780s style chintz gown. Pattern: JP Ryan English Nightgown

<https://www.jpryan.com/product-page/robe-%C3%A0-l-anglaise-or-english-nightgown>

Alternative: Fig Leaf English Gown

<https://www.figleafpatterns.com/101-english-gown-1770-1785.html> Example: Chintz gown 1780s, Met Museum, NY

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/159201>

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There were several different cap styles:

<https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/collections/patterns/caps>

<https://virgilsfinegoods.com/products/1780s-cap-bundle-paper-pattern-g106-1>



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Handkerchiefs could be white (dressier, or upper classes) or patterned (for working, or lower classes). Examples: Linen handkerchief, 1750 Met Museum NY

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/169503>, Block print handkerchief

MFA, Boston

<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/66180/handkerchief?ctx=a8097d95-de8e-498c-b356-b660cd409086&idx=101>, Linen handkerchief, MFA Boston

<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/76751/handkerchief?ctx=b669eadd-097e-4e06-9ef3-a8cc9a6be072&idx=135>



Above: Reproduction bonnets. Examples: silk bonnet, Colonial Williamsburg

<https://emuseum.colonialwilliamsburg.org/objects/2205/bonnet?ctx=61597876ddcd970f9cbc8d64dffa8af45bfc1e67&idx=957> "A Girl Gathering Filberts" by the English artist

William Redmore Bigg (1755–1828)

<https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/a-girl-gathering-filberts-147496> Patterns available at <https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/collections/patterns/bonnet>

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Left: Reproduction black straw hat decorated with silk ribbon. Example: black straw hat, Snowhill, UK National Trust <https://www.nationaltrustcollections.org.uk/object/1349843>

Right: Copy of Bergere hat, Colonial Williamsburg, 1760-85.

<https://emuseum.colonialwilliamsburg.org/objects/24144/hat?ctx=dcae969c6427fc0e07d202c17e37fa38f583f032&idx=0> by Larkin and Smith. Pattern available at <https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/collections/patterns/18th-century-silk-hat>



Above: Reproduction shoes: left <https://www.etsy.com/shop/HistoricalHatLady>), right copy of Mary Flint Spofford shoes in the Deerfield Museum by <https://www.gossvillenh.com/historicshoes.html>

Examples: Mary Flint Spofford's red calamanco (glazed wool) shoes, 1765

https://5col-museums.campus.ads.umass.edu/detail.php?museum=&t=objects&type=ext&f=&s=&record=0&id_number=HD+2004.26

Shoes, 1740s, worn in Kittery, ME. Colonial Williamsburg Collection

<https://emuseum.colonialwilliamsburg.org/objects/89887/shoes?ctx=ef8450488303eccffab76476a141ec65b74e4ae9&idx=0>

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Left: Photo of extant calamanco (glazed wool) shoes, 1780s- photo taken at a museum in Yorktown, VA. Right: Reproduction 1780s wool shoes, American Duchess. Extant paste buckles, private collection.



Above: left reproduction short cloak with collar. Right: reproduction full length cloak with pleated hood. Examples: Women's riding hood, last quarter of the 18th century. Red wool broad cloth hooded cloak trimmed in black silk.

<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/286216/womans-hooded-cloak?ctx=671baf71-e1c8-4441-9f63-2fc09368fd67&idx=45> Henry Walton, 1746–1813, A Market Girl, between 1776 and 1777, Yale Center for British art
<https://collections.britishart.yale.edu/catalog/tms:1113>

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Pattern for cloaks found in Baumgartner, Linda, *Costume Close-up: Clothing Construction and Pattern, 1750-1790*, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 1999.

Also Mill Farm has instructions for a long or short cloak:

<https://wmboothdraper.com/product/womans-short-cloak/>



Above: Reproduction riding habits. Left: by Wendy Levier, right: by the late Barbara Delorey. Far right: Felicity Merriman doll in riding habit, from Pleasant Company, 1993.

Example riding habit 1770-75, V&A Museum, London, UK

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O74100/riding-habit-unknown/>

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O115762/riding-coat-unknown/>

Patterns available at: 1) <https://www.jpryan.com/product-page/1770-s-riding-habit> 2) <https://burnleyandtrowbridge.com/products/mill-farm-riding-habit-pattern?variant=31799013605463> 3) Arnold, Janet, *Patterns of Fashion 1 : Englishwomen's dresses and their construction: 1660-1860*, MacMillan / QSM, London, 1964 &1977.

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19th century:



Reproduction Regency chemise and high waisted petticoat with straps. Long Regency stays by Redthreaded.

Examples of chemise 1790-1810 and petticoat, early 19th century, both Met Museum, New York <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/158911>
<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/81577>

Examples: Stays, early 19th century, MFA Boston, MA
<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/50002> , and early 19th century short and long stays, Kyoto Costume Institute https://www.kci.or.jp/en/archives/digital_archives/

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Right: reproduction silk gown with wool Spencer jacket. Gown inspired by an original on the Vintage Textile sale website, which appears to no longer be in business. This is a link to the photo on Pinterest

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/71565081575878599/visual-search/?cropSource=5&entry_point=closeup_cta&rs=search

Women's cotton Spencer jacket, 1815 LACMA

<https://collections.lacma.org/node/213796>

Gown and spencer patterns:

<https://www.laughingmoonmercantile.com/product-page/126-download-ladies-round-or-t-rained-gown-with-high-stomacher-front>

<https://www.laughingmoonmercantile.com/product-page/129-download-ladies-wrapping-front-spencer>

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Reproduction Regency bonnet by Timely Tresses <https://www.timelytresses.com/#/>

Regency bonnet styles

<https://janeausten.co.uk/blogs/home-and-hearth/trim-your-regency-bonnet>

In the 1820s, the shape is similar to Regency, but the waist drops lower, toward the natural position. Example: Late 1820s gown, Met Museum, NY

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/82114>

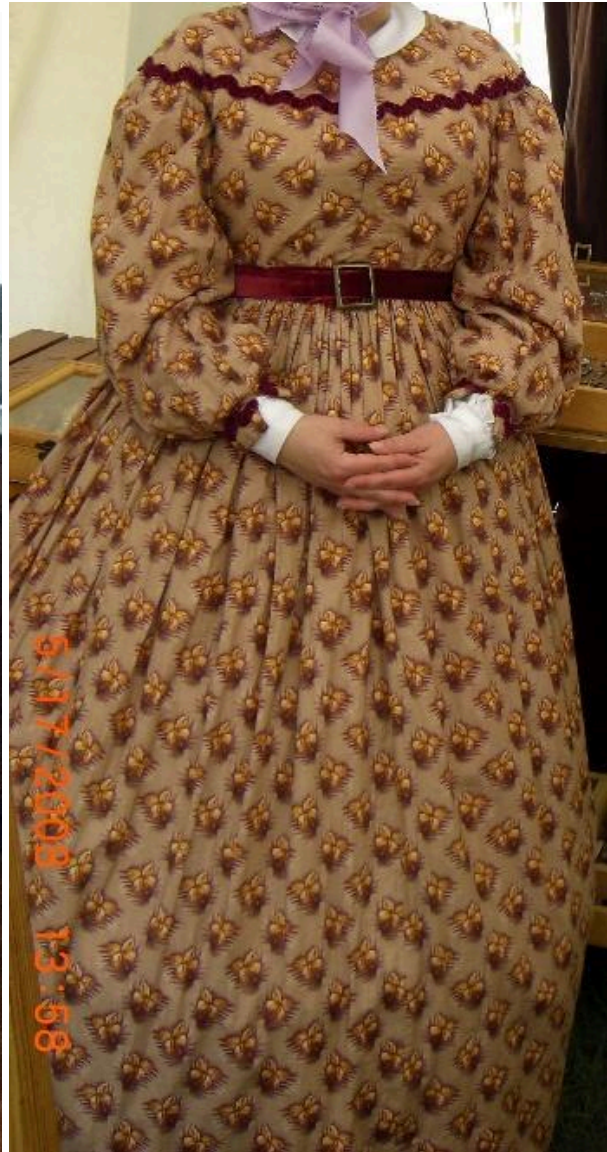


Reproduction corded petticoat and 1830s dress with pelerine. No sleeve supports available. Examples: 1830s corded petticoat, corset, and sleeve supports, and 3 1830s gowns, Met Museum, NY.

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<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/82076>,

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/82126>



Left: Reproduction 1840s dress. Right: Reproduction 1860s dress made with an earlier, 1840s fabric. Examples printed cotton day dress, V&A Museum, London

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O110124/dress-unknown/> Cotton print dress, 1840s

Met Museum, NY <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/84523>

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There were many bonnet styles throughout the 19th century. Above: reproduction coal scuttle bonnet 1830s/40s, corded sunbonnet, knitted hood, low spoon bonnet 1850s/60s, high spoon bonnet 1860s. Bonnets by Mrs. Parker's Millinery and Timely Tresses.

Examples: Winter bonnet, Probably American, 1825, Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

<https://www.mdhistory.org/a-shield-against-the-cold-an-1820s-winter-bonnet/> ,

Sunbonnet 1840s, Met Museum, NY (note sunbonnet design changed little throughout the 19th century). <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/169452>

Period illustration of winter hood <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/> Knitting instructions can be found on Ravelry.com.

1830s poke bonnet, V&A museum,

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O233278/bonnet-unknown/> , 1840s bonnet, Met

Museum, NY <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/113055> , Bonnet, 1854,

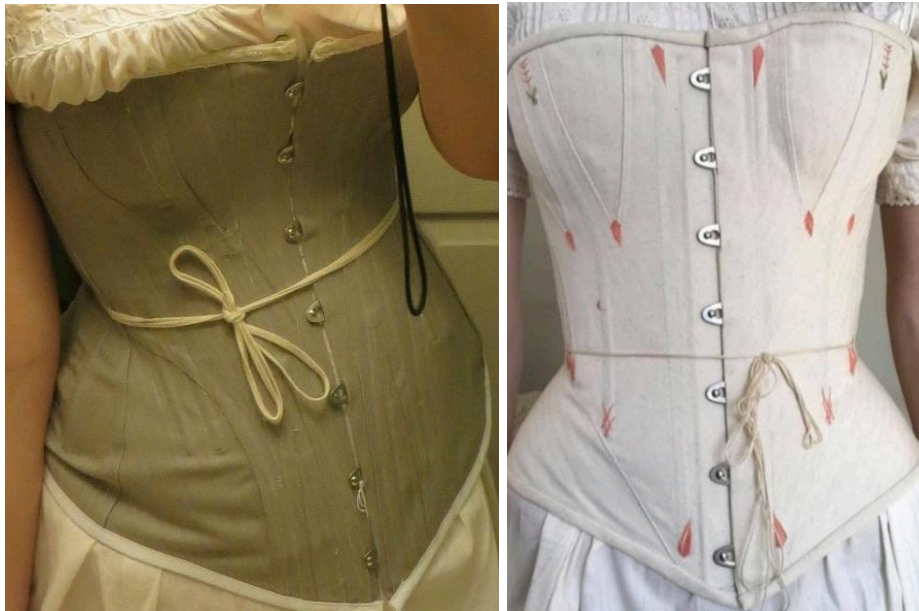
Met Museum, NY https://images.metmuseum.org/CRDImages/ci/original/32.93_CP3.jpg

No reproduction dress available for the 1850s.

Example of 1850s dress: Plaid silk dress, 1855 LACMA

<https://collections.lacma.org/node/214470> Note the fuller skirt, and the “pagoda” sleeves.

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Left: mid-19th century corset by Originals by Kay, Middle: Reproduction mid to late 19th century corset with decorative flossing by Hannah Hasbrouck. Right: Chemise, corset, drawers (just visible at bottom), underpetticoat and cage crinoline. Cage by Originals by Kay.

Examples: 1860s corset, V&A museum, London

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O15546/corset-unknown/>

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Chemise, corset, cage crinoline, V&A Museum, London, UK

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O15545/cage-crinoline-unknown/> 1860s split drawers, Met Museum, NY <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/108983>



Reproduction day dress (note sleeves are pushed up for working).

Example: Day dress, 1862-68, National Museum of American History

https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/object/nmah_360491



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Left: Jozef Simmler, Portrait of Emilia Włodkowska, 1865 National Museum in Warsaw.
Right: Reproduction ballgown by Originals by Kay <https://originals-by-kay.com/>



Paletot coat with vintage fur trim by The Graceful Lady. Example of paletot, 1863-65, Met Museum, NY <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/108212>, Paletot of Empress Eugenie <https://fripperiesandfobs.tumblr.com/post/123479794927/paletot-of-empress-eugenie-1860s-from-the-bowes/amp>

Coat pattern: <https://www.figleafpatterns.com/kf601-paletot-c-1860-1867.html>

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Reproduction sontags: Knitting instructions: <https://www.raggedsoldier.com/sontag.html>



Reproduction boots 1840s-60s with side lacing, elastic, and “Balmoral” boots with front lacing.

Examples from the Met Museum, NY

Side lacing boots, 1830s <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/769182>

Side lacing boots, 1840s <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/112735>

French evening boots, 1860s <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/156154>

“Congress” boots with elastic <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/158277>

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Mourning dress from 1873 by Originals by Kay. Reproduction 1870s bonnet, worn with a veil (not pictured)

Example of 1870 early bustle dress:

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/107620>

For more information, see Evolution of the bustle dress:

<https://mcwoldesigns.com/2023/08/17/badass-bustles-2/>

Unfortunately, we have no reproduction examples of 1880s or 1890s clothing.

Extant Examples:

Afternoon Dress 1880 Met Museum, NY

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/159555>

Evolution of the bustle dress 1879s-1880s

<https://www.bustletextiles.com/post/baby-got-back>

Dress, 1890-95, V&A Museum, London

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O128012/dress-unknown/>

Fashion History Timeline 1890-99 <https://fashionhistory.fitnyc.edu/1890-1899/>

Early 1900s:

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Left: Reproduction Edwardian ensemble, by Hannah Hasbrouck. Middle: extant Edwardian black wool skirt, and black hat with feathers. Reproduction blouse: Right extant Edwardian leather boots, private collection.

Resources:

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- The Tudor Tailor <https://www.tudortailor.com/> sells several publications, including their book *The Tudor Tailor* and *The Queen's Servants*. Tudor and Elizabethan patterns are often appropriate for the early 17th century.
- Peachey, Stuart, *Clothes of the Common People in Elizabethan and Early Stuart England*, Stuart Press, Bristol, England, 2014.
- North, Susan & Tiramani, Jenny, eds, *Seventeenth Century Women's Dress Patterns*, V&A Publishing, London, UK, 2011.
- The School of Historical Dress featuring Janet Arnold's *Patterns of Fashion* series: <https://theschoolofhistoricaldress.org.uk/>. Some of these volumes can be downloaded for free on <https://www.scribd.com/home>
- Waugh, Nora, *Corsets and Crinolines*, Theatre Arts Books, NY, 1954 (reprinted in 2000 and 2004).
- Waugh, Nora *The Cut of Women's Clothes, 1600-1930*, Theatre Arts Books, NY, 1968. (Note there is also a version for men's clothes).
- Baumgartner, Linda, *Costume Close-up: Clothing Construction and Pattern, 1750-1790*, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 1999
- Bradfield, Nancy, *Costume in Detail, 1730-1930*, Costume and Fashion Press, Great Britain, 1968 (there have been many reprints and it has been digitized).
- Hart, Avril & North, Susan, *Historical Fashion in Detail The 17th and 18th Centuries* V&A Publications, London, UK 2000.
- Johnston, Lucy, Kite, Marion, & Persson, Helen, *19th Century Fashion in Detail*, V&A Publications, London, UK, 2005.
- Lynn, Eleri *Underwear Fashion in Detail*, V&A Publications, London, UK, 2014.
- Johnson, Barbara & Rothstein, Natalie (ed), *A Lady of Fashion: Barbara Johnson's Album of Styles and Fabrics*, WW Norton Company, Inc., NY 1987.
- Styles, John, *The Dress of the People: Everyday Fashion in Eighteenth-Century England*, Yale University Press, New Haven, CT, 2008.
- Alexander, Kimberly S., *Treasures Afoot: Shoe Stories from the Georgian Era*, Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD 2018.
- Hagist, Don N., *Wives, Slaves, and Servant Girls: Advertisements for Female Runaways in American Newspapers, 1770-1783*, Westholme Publishing, Yardley, PA 2016.
- Stowell, Lauren & Cox, Abby, *American Duchess Guide to 18th Century Dressmaking: How to Hand Sew Georgian Gowns and Wear Them With Style*, Page Street Publishing, Salem, MA 2017.

From Coifs to Cage Crinolines- Documentation for Presentation at Old York Historical Society, March 21, 2026. By Kristel Henry and Hannah Hasbrouck

- Stowell, Lauren & Cox, Abby, *The American Duchess Guide to 18th Century Beauty: 40 Projects for Period-Accurate Hairstyles, Makeup, and Accessories*, Page Street Publishing, Salem, MA 2019.
- Leisch, Juanita, *Who Wore What? Women's Wear 1861-1865*, Thomas Publications, Gettysburg, PA 1995.
- Smithsonian, *Fashion: The Definitive History of Costume and Style*, DK Publishing, New York, 2012, updated 2019.
- Fukai, Akiko, et al (Kyoto Costume Institute). *Fashion: A History from the 18th to the 20th Century (2 Volume Set)*, Taschen, Cologne, Germany, 2006.

Pattern Resources:

- The Tudor Tailor <https://www.tudortailor.com/>
- Reconstructing History <https://reconstructinghistory.com/> (Note: shipping to US has been paused, but sometimes these patterns can be found online on other websites.)
- Larkin and Smith <https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/>
- Recollections of JP Ryan <https://www.jpryan.com/>
- Fig Leaf Patterns <https://www.figleafpatterns.com/index.html>
- Scroop Patterns <https://www.scrooppatterns.com/>
- Mill Farm Patterns (designed by the late Sharon Burnston) <https://amazondrygoods.com/categories/historic-patterns/by-maker/mill-farm.html>
- Laughing Moon Patterns <https://www.laughingmoonmercantile.com/>
- Past Patterns <https://pastpatterns.com/>
- Genessee Country Village downloadable patterns <https://www.gcv.org/historic-pattern-database/>
- Truly Victorian <https://trulyvictorian.info/>
- Historical Sewing Resources with links to patterns <https://historicalsewing.com/resources/patterns>
- Note: Simplicity offers some historical patterns. Some of them are decent, but most require alterations to make them historically accurate.