

*DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES
TO SAVE THE KING?*



Lady of the Lakes Renaissance Faire
Resources for Teachers & Students
For Friday, Education Day

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Introduction

Lady of the Lakes Renaissance Faire

About

The Lady of the Lake Renaissance Faire began in 2002, offering visitors an opportunity to step back in time to a magical and enchanting land created to represent an authentic English village. Artisans fill the village, working in mediums such as pottery, leatherwork, sculpture, and candle making. The crafts and entertainment combine with thematic games and foods to create a glimpse of marketplace celebrations of life in the 16th century.

The Faire is an established member of a national Renaissance Faire circuit and features over 100 performers, representing various entertainments of the time – Knights in armor, gypsies, fire-eaters, pirates, dancers, merchants, peasants, historical characters and a variety of musicians.

Purpose

Our fun and fantasy in the forest serves a purpose. Every dollar raised from this event goes to the teachers and students in Lake County Public Schools. Our culinary students cook every turkey leg and our drama students prepare to greet our patrons for 4 months. There are over 13,000 volunteer hours dedicated to the magic. The event has over a 2 million dollar economic impact on our county. It is fantasy and fun that creates futures for many less fortunate. Please make this the year you come!

The Intrigue

The year is 1606 and marks the first anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot during which Robert Catesby and Guy Fawkes came very close to succeeding in their plans to blow up the King and every member of Parliament! Shaken and looking for a distraction the King and his Court have decided to make their way to the country, along with the royal Guards, led by Captain Malcolm Wolfe.

Greeting his Majesty are foreign Ambassadors with talks of Treaties and rumors of another Assassination Plot.

Most unexpected and terrifying, is the arrival of the King's cousin, Lady Arabella Stuart. Lady Arabella, considered the rightful successor to the throne by some, has made her own progress with designs on marriage to William Seymour, Duke of Somerset. Growing concerned that the marriage proposal is a prelude in an attempt to seize the Crown, the King will be challenged to stop the dangerous match before it puts his reign in jeopardy.

The Politics of England

A. James VI of Scotland

Early Years

Born in 1566, James Charles Stuart became King James VI of Scotland at 13 months old following his mother's forced abdication. It was not until 1583 that James gained full control of his government. In 1589 he married Anne of Denmark, mother of his 9 children.

King of England

James had the best claim to the English throne, as the great-great-grandson of Henry VII, the son of Mary Queen of Scots, and the great-nephew of King Henry VIII. Henry VIII's will specified succession in favor of his younger sister Mary Tudor, passing over the Scottish line of his elder sister Margaret, James' great-grandmother. Following the death of Queen Elizabeth I, Henry's will was disregarded, and James became King James I of Great Britain, joining the English and Scottish crowns.



B. Gunpowder Plot

Guy Fawkes

Guy Fawkes, an English Catholic, along with 12 co-conspirators, plotted to blow up the House of Lords during the State Opening of England's Parliament on November 5, 1605. This failed assassination attempt of King James is often referred to as the Gunpowder Plot or Gunpowder Treason Plot.

Discovery

The plot was revealed to the authorities in an anonymous letter sent on 26 October, 1605 to a Catholic member of Parliament. Fawkes was discovered during a search of the House of Lords around midnight on the 4th of November, 1605, guarding 36 barrels of gunpowder.

Consequence

Following his arrest that night, most of the conspirators fled from London, trying to enlist support along the way. After three days of torture, Guy Fawkes revealed the other names of the conspirators involved in the plot, who shortly thereafter were caught or killed. At their trial on 27 January, 1606, eight of the survivors, including Fawkes, were convicted and sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered.



Today

Because of the foiled attempt, Parliament declared November 5th a public day of thanksgiving. For many years afterwards, the foiled Gunpowder Plot was commemorated by special sermons and other public events such as the ringing of church bells. Today, November 5th has evolved into Guy Fawkes Day or

Bonfire Night, where all across Great Britain, the citizens remember “The Fifth of November” by lighting bonfires or setting off displays of fireworks.

C. The Union

The Proposal

From the beginning of his rule, King James called his kingdom, "Great Britain", consisting of England, Wales, and Scotland. In 1604, he tried to bring about a statutory union, which was the first of its kind in Europe.

Opposition

The English Parliament strongly opposed the proposed union; some perceived the Scots as barbarous and poor. Another argument posed was Parliament had no authority to legislate for Scotland. Perhaps the main objection came from England’s lawyers who concluded that the creation of a unitary state would result in the extinction of the laws of both countries. Like the English, the people of Scotland were just as reluctant as the English to lose their separate identity, and resisted the proposed union.

Abandoning a Union

In November 1606, the proposal, ‘Instrument of the Union’, was read in the Commons. After months of dissension, King James regrettably abandoned his plan. It would not be until the early 1700’s the English would try again, creating a union of kingdoms with separate governing laws.

D. The King and the Church

The Bible

King James is considered to have been one of the most intellectual individuals ever to sit on the English or Scottish throne. In 1604, King James I of Great Britain specially commanded the translation of what came to be known as the Authorized (King James) Version of 1611 of the Bible. He actually took an active role in developing the rules for translators and encouraging the completion of the work. In July of 1604 the King had appointed 54 men to the translation committee. These men were not only the best linguists and scholars in the kingdom, but in the world. Much of their work on the King James Bible formed the basis for our linguistic studies of today. The King James Version of the

Bible, the highly popular English translation from Greek and Hebrew, remains the most printed book in the history of the world, with over one billion copies in print. King James both authorized and provided financing for its production.

The Divine Right of Kings

By the time of King James' rule, the Popes of Rome had been assuming the rights of kings for centuries, causing them many troubles. Rome would often manipulate the Catholics living within a Sovereign's country, releasing Catholics from obeying the laws of the land. Rome would tell the citizens it is a "Meritorious" or commendable thing to kill a heretic King. It was upon this basis that the Catholic co-conspirators tried to kill King James in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. King James waged a powerful and effective defense of the right of kings to rule their own countries without having to bow to the dictates of a foreign power, specifically, the Pope of Rome. The Workes, first published in 1616 (with two additional Workes appended in 1620) is a collection of the writings of King James, commenting forcefully about the Roman Catholic church's tendency to usurp power, kill kings, and disrupt kingdoms.

Consequences of the Gunpowder Plot

The King had treated the Catholics fairly before the plot and even in the aftermath of the discovery of the plot. However, following the Gunpowder Plot, James authorized measures to control non-conforming English Catholics. One of his first Acts passed by Parliament in the Spring of 1606 was the Popish Recusants Act which required any citizen to take an Oath of Allegiance denying the Pope's authority over the king.

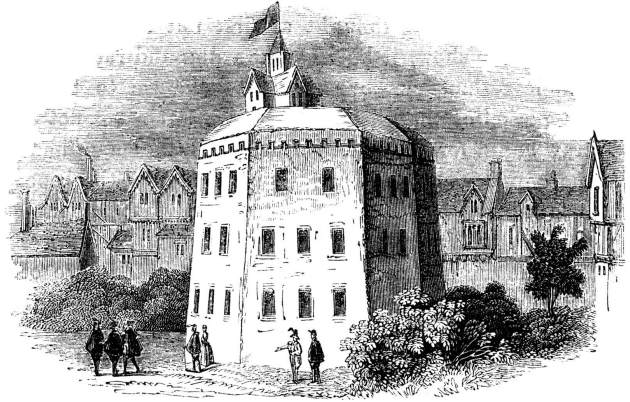
Life during the Renaissance

E. Sports and Culture

Theatre

People of the 17th century liked plays, both comedies and tragedies.

Traveling troupes of male actors (women were not allowed on stage) would visit villages and perform on makeshift stages.



Beginning in 1572, actors had to hold a license from a noble in order to perform in public. Without protection from some powerful benefactor, actors were likely to be arrested as vagrants.

King James was a great fan of the theatre. Upon his ascension of the throne of England in 1603 one of his first acts was to grant letters, patent under the great seal, licensing multiple actors to perform in London at the Globe theatre, in the provinces at town-halls, and more. One of these actors was William Shakespeare.

Music

Music was a very important part of society, playing a part in every aspect of court life including: processions, coronations, funerals, baptisms, and fanfares announcing the monarch's approach. By the late 16th century (1500's) the changes in the wealth and culture of the upper social orders caused tastes in music to diverge.

King James did not favor music as his royal predecessors did, however his opinion changed as he matured; his wife, Anne of Denmark, a great lover of music, also influenced him.

Education

Well off families' put both boys and girls to a form of infant school called a petty school. However, only boys went to grammar school. Upper class girls (and sometimes boys) were taught by tutors. Middle class girls might be taught by their mothers. Boarding schools for girls were founded in many towns, in them, girls were taught subjects like writing, music and needlework. Many children learned to read and write with something called a hornbook. It was not a book in the modern sense. Instead, it was a wooden board with a handle. Fixed to the board was a sheet of paper with the alphabet and the Lord's prayer (the Our Father) written on it.

Fencing

As weapons evolved, they became lighter. The rapier, the instrument of fencing, was introduced into England in the middle of the 16th century. As the middle class grew, more men had an increase in income. More men could purchase and carry swords, learn fighting, and improve their craft. Known as a gentlemen's sport, participants would practice with each other to improve their swordsmanship. A number of swordsmanship schools were set up, where men could develop their skills and technique.



Dueling

During this time, forbidden “duels of honor” became the new fashion and were numerous throughout the nobility class. Duels had its own sets of rules that were based on honor and not necessarily justice. A man was judged by his composure, not who was the victor.

Horse Racing

Horses had been raced in Britain for hundreds of years by the time of King James, and while he was king of both countries, he brought the sport (as it is known today) into England from Scotland. He organized public races in a number of places, and continued to import quality animals aimed at the development of a superior horse breed, or a more powerful and swifter horse.

Archery

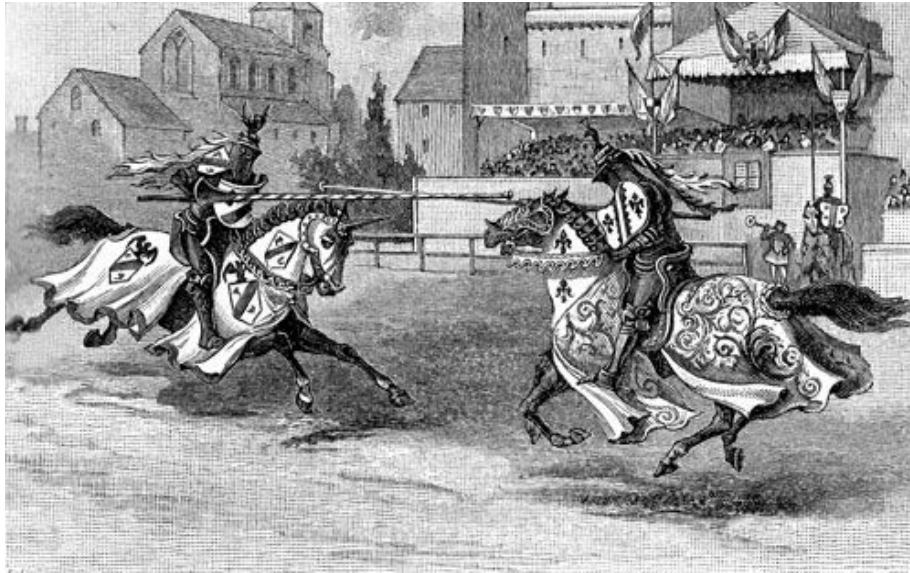
Law required every father give his son a bow upon his seventh birthday and every Englishman, by law, between the ages of 16 and 60, owned a longbow. Target practice areas were set up in every village. Originally intended to prepare men for battle, archers were displaced in English armies through the development of firearms and cannon in the 1600s. It was during the 17th century that archery gained popularity as a competitive sport.

Archery is where archers stand at a certain spot and shoot arrows at small targets, big targets and sometimes even moving targets. Back in the 1600s the game of archery could be used to win the love of a Lady.

Hunting

Only the upper classes and the clergy considered hunting a sport; they saw it as an essential skill, contrasting to a gentleman's daily business. Hunting with trained greyhounds and birds of prey, game included hare (rabbits), stag (deer), wolf, wild bear and fox.

During mid-winter, when stag could not be hunted, the Royals and their nobles engaged in hawking or falconry. Falconry is a field sport with a trained bird of prey, (hawk or falcon) and was protected by a Royal edict, because these birds were considered so valuable.



Jousting

Originally, jousting events served to hone fighting skills for knights, and in peaceful times, a way to retain his skills. Over time jousting evolved into a sporting contest using weapons. Jousting sessions – known as tournaments, were entertainment for the king and his court.

The challenge involved two knights on horseback charging towards each other with lances with the objective of knocking the other rider off their horse. Jousting awards after a win could be armour, weapons, and even the horses.

F. Travel

Transportation

Travel by land was generally slow and mainly on foot or in the saddle. Many roads were still made only of dirt and there was a constant fear of Highwaymen. The upper class used horses, elaborate wagons, and carriages. Wealthy or infirm people could also choose to be carried on a litter or a sedan chair. Carts or wagons could also be hired for a fee.

Boats

Boats were mainly used for goods and not passengers. All around England there was a 'coastal trade' and goods from one part of the country were taken by sea, to other parts of the British coast.

Carriages, Carts, Wagons

The pavement of some roadways, mainly in cities, improved roads and opened the new businesses of carriages for hire. Carriages became common in the streets of London in 1605 but were very costly, afforded mainly by the wealthy.

Wheeled carts or wagons were somewhere in between, as they generally depended on teams of horses or pack animals to pull them. While convenient to carry goods, these “vehicles” could sometimes be heavily laden and required slower going.

Horses

Travel was much quicker for a single person on horseback. A common practice was for a traveler to buy a horse for a journey, and then sell it on arrival. Generally, a good horse could travel between thirty-five to fifty miles a day.

On Foot

If a traveler were on foot, they could go about three miles per hour. In addition to their own two legs, lower classes relied on mules or asses, wagons, and handcarts.

G. Defense

Weapons

The traditional English weapon was the longbow, however with the invention of handheld firearms and the wheel lock during the 16th Century, gunpowder became more affordable, the longbow and crossbow slowly went out of use.

Longbow

The longbow is a type of bow that is roughly equal to the height of the user. A highly-skilled bowmen achieved a far higher rate of fire than the matchlock arquebus. Despite the rise of firearms, the crown made continued to promote archery practice by banning other sports and fining people for not possessing bows.



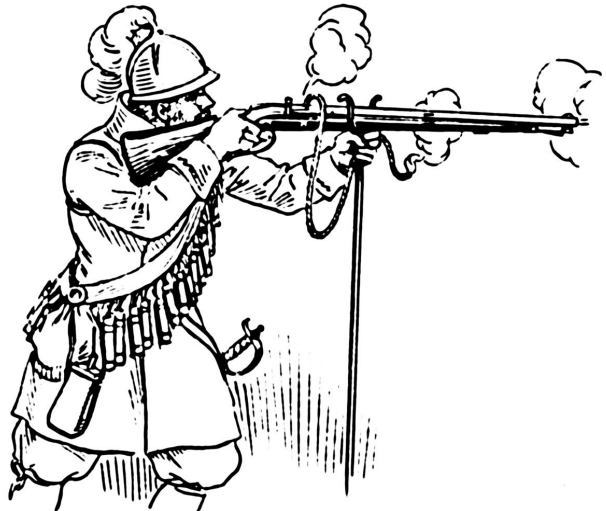
Pike



A pike is a pole weapon, a very long thrusting spear formerly used extensively by infantry. Unlike many similar weapons, the pike is not intended to be thrown. Because a musket took a long time to reload and the soldiers were very vulnerable while they did so, they were protected by men with pikes. The pike men usually wore a steel helmet.

Arquebus

A hand-held firearm, the arquebus, was an early muzzle-loaded firearm used in the 15th to 17th centuries. It was lighter and easier to carry than its successor, the Musket. An arquebus shot was considered deadly at up to 480 yards while the heavier Spanish musket was considered deadly at up to 600 yards. The arquebus required a much lower level of skill than the typical archer, requiring the user to practice months as opposed to years, to master it.



Musket

The term "musket" is applied to a variety of weapons, including the long, heavy guns, and also lighter weapons. A musket is a muzzle-loaded, smoothbore firearm, fired from the shoulder. Muskets were designed for use by infantry as a specialist armour piercing weapon.



Matchlock

The matchlock was the first mechanism, or "lock," invented to facilitate the firing of a hand-held firearm. This design removed the need to lower a lit match by hand, into the weapon's flash pan. A matchlock held a slow burning match, which was touched to the powder when the trigger was pulled. The low cost of production, simplicity, and high availability of the matchlock kept it in

use in European armies until about 1720.

Wheel Lock

The wheel lock was the next major development in firearms technology after the matchlock and the first self-igniting firearm. With a wheel lock a metal wheel spun against iron pyrites making sparks. During the 17th century both of these were gradually replaced by the flintlock which worked by hitting a piece of flint and steel making sparks.



H. Commerce

Economy

The economy in Renaissance England was agriculturally based. Since there were only around forty-five noble families, most English people were farmers in some capacity. The chief livestock was sheep.

Food and Beverages

In the 17th century people made much of their own food. A farmer's wife cured bacon and salted meat to preserve it. She baked bread and brewed beer. She also made pickles and conserves (jams) and preserved vegetables. Many prosperous farms kept bees for honey.

Lower classes subsisted on food like bread, cheese and onions. They only had one cooked meal a day and ate pottage each day. They mixed grain with water and added vegetables and (if they could afford it) strips of meat. Only the very poor drank water because it was too dirty. Young children drank milk. Everyone else drank ale or, if they were rich, wine.

Merchants

During the 1600s the status of merchants improved. People saw that trade was an increasingly important part of the country's wealth so merchants became more respected. However political power and influence was held by rich landowners.

Guilds Guilds were and are associations of artisans or merchants who control the practice of their craft in a particular town. The earliest types of guild were formed as confraternities of tradesmen. A master craftsman or master tradesman (sometimes called only master or grandmaster) was a member of a guild.

- ❖ Sawyer: Contracted for sawn wooden planks for building.
- ❖ Turner: Crafts lathe-turned items (table legs, finials).
- ❖ Blacksmith: A metalsmith who creates objects from wrought iron or steel by forging the metal, using tools to hammer, bend, and cut.
- ❖ Armorer: Contracted for personal armour, especially plate armour. In modern terms, an armorer is a member of a military or police force who works in an armory and maintains and repairs small arms and weapons systems.
- ❖ Fletcher: Attaches the fletching, or feathers to arrows or darts.
- ❖ Chandler: Responsible for wax, candles, and soap.
- ❖ Cooper: A maker of barrels and other staved vessels.
- ❖ Farrier: A specialist in horse hoof care, including the trimming and balancing of horses' hooves and the placing of shoes.
- ❖ Tanner: Transforms animal hides into leather for shoes, saddles, and more.

Buying Goods

Bartering was the most common form of commerce of the period. Rather than exchanging money for the goods or services required, people simply traded what they had or the services they could offer for those they needed. People could obtain goods from a shop in the village, the occasional traveling peddler, a market, or a faire.

Markets, usually held on a weekly basis, were sponsored by the local lord or squire and dealt mostly with foodstuffs. Faires were rarer than markets and offered a wider variety of goods. Faires were commonly held in conjunction with a Festival (religious holiday).

I. Trades & Occupations

Tapestry

A form of textile art, traditionally woven on a vertical loom. Tapestries were also draped on the walls of castles for insulation during winter, as well as for decorative display. A rich tapestry panel woven with symbolic emblems, mottos, or coats of arms, was called a baldachin, canopy of state or cloth of state.

- ❖ Stapler: Buys and sells raw wool; also silk and linen.
- ❖ Draper: Deals in cloth (wholesale), plus some ready-made garments and dry goods.
- ❖ Mercer: Sells cloth or fabrics such as silk or wool.

Embroidery

The process used to tailor, patch, mend and reinforce cloth fostered the development of sewing techniques, and the decorative possibilities of sewing led to the art of embroidery. This added elegant embellishments to their already lavish garments.

- ❖ Haberdasher: maker of hats and head coverings
- ❖ Tailor / Seamstress: Makes all forms of clothing for the classes (undergarments, over garments, bodices, corsets, shirts, chemises, etc.)

Clothing

J. Requirements

Social Order

A general taste for abundant surface ornamentation is reflected in both household furnishings and in fashionable court clothing from the mid-16th century through the reign of James I. Renaissance clothing formed a part of the social order. Clothing revealed a person's status, reflecting wealth and social reputation. English Parliament passed laws related to clothing, stating the colors and type of clothing individuals were allowed to own and wear. The

Sumptuary Laws

Sumptuary laws were created to maintain the social hierarchy. It was illegal for anyone to dress above their station. The punishments for violating these statutes were fines and/or jail time, and most commonly included public embarrassment. Ridicule at court or about town for a violation or inappropriate item would be more damaging, and public, than a fine.

The Lower Classes

Lower class clothing was much different from the clothing of the wealthy and noble. These lower-class citizens were often dressed in dull-colored clothing made from natural fibers like cotton, wool or flax. Woolen clothing was prevalent, since wool was quite cheap due to the flourishing wool trade. Attire was much simpler and consisted of fewer pieces. Women wore a shift, overdress, apron, hat and shoes. Men wore a long undershirt, breeches, tunic or vest, hat and shoes.

Materials and Colors

Upper class clothing was made of velvet, satin, and exotic silk. Only members of the Royal family possessed robes trimmed with ermine fur. Lesser nobles donned clothing trimmed with fox and otter. A dye's color and its brightness were the two major factors governing its price; as a result, bright colors were mainly worn by the upper class. The deep crimson or bright scarlet color was obtained from an insect, which was native to the Mediterranean. Only royalty was allowed to wear purple because it was very expensive to create the dye, made by crushing the shells of tiny snails.



Dame à la mode de 1605.
(Recueil de Gaignières, t. X.)



Dame veuve de la fin du règne d'Henri IV.
(Recueil de Gaignières, t. X.)

K. Noble Women's Appearance

Garb

A noble woman's clothing consisted of many pieces: shift, stockings, corset, partlet or ruff, farthingale, bumroll, kirtle, overskirt, hat, and shoes. Upper class women generally adorned themselves with jewelry.

Chemise

Women wore a shift or chemise under their gown. It was the only underwear worn and was usually the only piece of clothing that was washed regularly.

Drawers

Drawers or underwear were typically “open” or split into two separate legs tied around the waist. There is pictorial evidence that Venetian courtesans wore linen or silk drawers, but no evidence that drawers were worn in England until the early 19th century.

Stockings or Hose

Stockings or hose were generally made of woven wool sewn to shape and held in place with ribbon garters. Garters, or narrow bands of fabric, fastened about the leg, to keep up stockings or hose.

Pair of Bodies or Stays

A pair of bodies or stays were a garment worn to hold and train the torso into a desired shape for aesthetic or medical purposes. To achieve a fashionable shape and support the bust, they were stiffened with reeds or whalebone.

Farthingale

Women wore farthingale or hoop skirts under their dresses. A hoop was a constructed frame, made of wood or whalebone and was worn so skirts were held in the proper shape.

Bum roll

A bum roll was a crescent shaped roll of fabric, tied and worn around the hips over the hoop skirt. The purpose of a bum roll was to make the waist look smaller. By the 1590s, the bum roll evolved to a wide wheel drum shape.

Partlet

A low neckline might be filled with an infill, called a partlet. Partlets were worn over the chemise but under the gown and were typically made of a fine linen. Most common colors were black or white.

Kirtle or Petticoat

The kirtle, or petticoat, was typically worn over a chemise or shift and under the formal outer garment or gown/surcoat. Kirtles evolved to tightly fitted supportive garments and by the 16th century, they could be constructed by combining a fitted bodice with a skirt gathered or pleated into the waist seam. Worn for warmth, they were elaborately decorated and worn under

open-fronted gowns and looped overskirts from the mid-16th century. They could be embellished with a variety of decorations including gold, silk, and tassels.

Overskirts

Women wore sturdy overskirts called safeguards over their dresses for riding or travel on dirty roads.

Bodice

An article of clothing covering the body from the neck to the waist and laced together at the sides, back, or front. In the early years of the new century, bodices had high necklines, squared necklines, and short wings at the shoulders. The bodice was different from the stays or pair of bodies of the time because it was intended to be worn over the other garments. It could have removable sleeves or no sleeves and was often worn over a pair of bodies.

Shoes

Shoes were typically a flat one-piece sole and rounded toes, fastened with ribbons, laces or simply slipped on. Flat shoes were worn to around 1610, when a low heel became popular.

Hair & Head Coverings

Married and grown women covered their hair, as they had in previous periods. Women's hair was worn feathered high over the forehead. Married women wore their hair in a linen coif or cap, often with lace trim. Tall hats like those worn by men were adopted for outdoor wear.

Accessories

Jewelry was popular among those that could afford it. Necklaces were beaded gold or silver chains and worn in concentric circles reaching as far down as the waist. Ruffs also had a jewelry attachment such as glass beads, embroidery, gems, brooches or flowers. Belts were a surprising necessity, used for fashion and practical purposes.



L. Noble Men's Appearance

Undergarments

A noble man's clothing was not as complicated as a woman's garments, but was no less elegant. Men wore a linen shirt as an undergarment or "undershirt". Linen shirts had a collar, sleeves with cuffs, and a full vertical opening with buttons or snaps.

Doublet

A man's snug-fitting buttoned jacket that is shaped and fitted to his body. The doublet was hip length or waist length and worn over the shirt or drawers. By the 17th century, doublets were short-waisted. A typical sleeve of this period was full and slashed to show the shirt beneath.

Ruffs

The ruff evolved from the small fabric ruffle at the drawstring neck of the shirt. It served as changeable pieces of cloth that could be laundered separately while keeping the wearer's doublet from becoming soiled at the neckline.

Stockings

Also known as hose, stockings were worn on the lower half of the leg, along with breeches. They are close-fitting, variously elastic garments covering the leg from the foot up to the knee.

Breeches

Breeches were pants, usually stopping just below the knee. Breeches were normally closed and fastened along the open seams down the leg to the knee with either buttons or a draw-string.

Shoes

Lower class men wore simple slip-on shoes which were easy to make and get fixed by the local cobbler. Boots for outdoor work fit close to the legs, went up to above the knee, and had small buckles. Typically shoes were made of leather as this lasted for a longer period. The toe tended to be rounded.

Cape

Short cloaks, or capes were worn over the doublet, were usually hip-length and often with sleeves. Worn by fashionable men, capes were usually slung artistically over the left shoulder, even indoors. Long cloaks were worn for inclement weather.

Hair

Early in the century, hair was worn collar-length and brushed back from the forehead; very fashionable men wore a single long strand of hair called a lovelock over one shoulder. They also wore beards.

Head Coverings

The most popular style toward the end of the 16th century were very tall with a stiffened crown. Later conical felt hats with rounded crowns called capotains became fashionable. Hats were decorated with jewels and feathers, and were worn both indoors and out.

Accessories

A baldrick or "corse" was a belt commonly worn diagonally across the chest or around the waist for holding items such as swords, daggers, bugles, and horns.

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