

1584 Tudor Travel Kit for a 10 Year Old Child

By Baroness Kaleeb the Green Eyed

For this years Kingdom Arts and Sciences, I have decided to take a list of clothing requirements from Jamestown and acquire or make as many of the items as is reasonably possible. All of the things will fit in a sea chest/bench chest, as if my son were going on a voyage to the New World in July of the year 1584. I have tried to use only those items that a ten year old child would need or find of interest. Please look at the different items, as parts of a whole kit.

Here is the list of items I wish to be judged for the Pentathlon:

1. Three Shirts
2. Leather Bound Book
3. Bench Chest
4. Fishing Kit
5. Research paper on the whole kit

Here is a list of items that I researched and documented in my paper that were purchased to complete the travel kit:

1. Comb
2. Fish Hooks, Weights and Line
3. Shoes
4. Dishes
5. Socks

Here is a list of items that I researched and constructed for the travel kit:

1. Slops
2. Doublets
3. Gorinchem Coat
4. Garters
5. Flask
6. Points
7. Flat Cap

Here is a copy of the provisions list of 1622 for Jamestown:

- “One Monmouth cap [a flat, round cap].
- Three falling bands.
- Three shirts.
- One waste-coate.
- One suite of Canvase [a suit made of coarse cloth, such as cotton, hemp, tow, or jute].
- One suite of Frize [a woolen fabric with a nap].
- One suite of Cloth.
- Three paire of Irish stockins.
- Foure paire of shooes.
- One paire of garters.
- One doozen of points.”

While I used many sources (see my bibliography) my primary two references were *Before the Mast* and *The Tudor Child*.

Why I chose this Time Period and that Persona

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Two questions I had to answer for myself are “Why would I, an Anglo-Saxon, choose to dress my family in a different time period” and “What can I do to keep myself interested in those different time periods?”

The first answer is somewhat straightforward. We did not go to Pennsic last year. That was the first Pennsic my 9 year old son has ever missed. We went on a family vacation out West to see the Dinosaurs. It was the first summer in years that I did not completely replace half of his SCA wardrobe. (I have my kids set up on an every other year new wardrobe replacement cycle. I have 2 boys and sew for a third, because she is a girl.) Kids out grow clothing at an alarming rate. Over the years I have made lots of t-tunics and G-63's for him. We go to Pennsic for 10 days to 2 weeks. I have started to hear “Mon, I want pants!” So I researched clothing that had pants. I asked if he want to look like Dad, who wears Elizabethan. The response was yes, but no pumpkin pants. He also needs to be able to fence in the clothing and climb a tree. The next requirement was striped socks. 2 years ago he got a free pair of striped socks from the sock man at Pennsic. It was important to my son to be able to wear his striped socks with pants. The time period narrowed.

Late in the summer I found out about a new book on Tudor children's clothing. I have always made my children's garb from patterns. I drafted that were adjusted from adult garments. I know most of the tricks to make that garment last for awhile, with growth pleats, tucks, long hems and belts. I thought it would be interesting to make a garment from a drafted children's pattern. *The Tudor Child* is the first book I have found that solely addresses the needs of children and their growth patterns from a costuming angle. It even backs up the patterns with portraits, letters, pictures, extant garments and drafted patterns. I now had a time period for the replacement wardrobe.

The answer to my second question on how to stay interested in sewing Tudor children's clothing is a bit more convoluted. I went to a wonderful University class on Elizabethan Men's clothing taught by Master Robert of Beddingfield. In the class he mentioned a list of clothing for men who were coming to the new world. I do not know if I wrote down the wrong notes, but I heard the list was from the North Carolina Roanoke settlement. We had just seen the Lost Colony while on Vacation. I had pictures from a Museum. After a lot of reading about the Lost Colony and an email to Mistress Isobel of Beddingfield I was correct that the list is from Jamestown. Jamestown is less than 30 minutes from my house and we go there several times a year. Again I had an easy connection.

For this Kingdom Arts and Sciences, I have decided to take the list from Jamestown and acquire or make as many of the items as is reasonably possible. All of the things will fit in a sea chest, as if my son were going on a voyage to the New World in July of the year 1584. Previously I had not done much research into eras where objects and records have survived in any significant quantity. Turns out it is a lot easier than for my 7th century Anglo-Saxon persona.

One of the first things I realized was how wealthy my son would need to be to make the trip with any possibility of survival. The archeological dig from the Mary Rose has provided evidence of children on the ship. Those children did not have any easy life. The average person on the Mary Rose, when she went down, was a man aged 20 –30 years old. There were very few older men. The bone records all indicate a life spent lifting heavy objects, with little chance for escape. The records of older men all indicate that they were people with a specialized trade. The Roanoke expedition does not have complete records, as the first wave of settlers to attempt a colony were never found. I do not remember pointing out to my children any evidence of children while at the Lost Colony Museum. There were a few children at Jamestown. They died young. Therefore I have decided to put my son on the boat which Thomas Herriot took to the New World to make maps in 1584. This was the year before the Roanoke colony met their fate. Thomas Herriot returned to England, just as I would like my son to return home alive, with stories to tell.

The Tudor Tailor books are organized by gender. *The King's Servants* has many different servants profiled. It is often noted when the King's warrant provided more than one set of clothing for a servant. Most of the servants seem to have had between two and four outfits. Almost none of those outfits were purchased as a group at a single time. The Jamestown provisions list from 1622 requests 3 outfits. It is my assumption that between two and four sets of clothing was a normal allotment. My son will have a complete wardrobe made for him at a single time. (I hope it still fits in August, when we go to Pennsic.) This is an indication of wealth.

My son will have more than the clothing on his back and he will have some place to put his things. That in itself makes him well off. The leather bound book makes him more well off. Add to that list the type of dishes and leisure time equipment that he has packed and he is very wealthy.

Here is a copy of the provisions list of 1622 for Jamestown:

- “One Monmouth cap [a flat, round cap].
- Three falling bands.
- Three shirts.
- One waste-coate.
- One suite of Canvase [a suit made of coarse cloth, such as cotton, hemp, tow, or jute].
- One suite of Frize [a woolen fabric with a nap].
- One suite of Cloth.
- Three paire of Irish stockins.
- Foure paire of shooes.
- One paire of garters.
- One doozen of points.”

I have altered this list a little to include only items which were in use or fashion during the Tudor time period. Hence the lack of falling bands in William's bench chest. I have substituted a Gorinchem coat for the waste coat. It is my understanding that both of those garments are the outer most layer of clothing worn on a cold day. I heavily questioned the need for four pairs of shoes, but that number matches up with the shoe numbers from the *King's Servants*. I have also done some reading about foot disease and needing to keep your feet dry. William's shoes will

be close to what is period, but not very expensive, perfect or all of the same size. He does not need 4 pairs of shoes he cannot wear to school, even though he destroys about 4 pair of shoes in any given year. I will also purchase the shoes, as my attempts at handmade footwear have all been disastrous and a general waste of money. I have included 3 complete outfits, per the list, however the fabrics do not exactly match the details in the list. William will not wear a set of itchy wool or heavy linen clothing. His wardrobe must be washable and light weight, for Virginia summers.

The items I chose to put in the bench chest all have some basis on the Mary Rose find and the Jamestown provisions list. When the item was possible to make, I have made it. When the item was not within my skill set to make, I have purchased it. I have tried to make those purchases clear in my documentaion. I have tried to write more on the 5 main items for the persona pentathlon competition. I have written less on the items which were purchased, but included more pictures for research referencing. I have included purchased items which are still in common use, because I did not want to spend my time on an easy to find item in mass manufacture; for example small wooden boxes or combs. I want the items to be used and most times I will not hand an easy to loose handmade item to my children. I have used research assistants when it was convenient. These are folks who have taught a class, written a paper or run a web site. I have tried to be very clear, when I took a shortcut on research. I have spot checked those research assistants. I have written a single annotated bibliography. It should include references from all of the items. I have collected things from different parts of the Mary Rose find, however I have tried to use only those items that a ten year old child would need or find of interest. Please look at the different items as parts of a whole kit.

Bibliography

By Baroness Kaleeb the Green Eyed

D'Anthenaise, Claude, *The Hunting Book of Gaston Phebus*, Paris: Hackberry Press, 2002.

This is not a Tudor book. I used it as a reference to make a flask several years ago. It is the same style of flask which can be found on the Mary Rose, so I did not make a second flask.

Arnold, Janet, *Patterns of Fashion 4 The cut and construction of linen shirts, smocks, neckwear, headwear and accessories for men and women c.1540-1660*, London: MacMillan, 2008.

This book is excellent for researching Tudor through Cavalier undergarments. It is very clear, crisp photographs with some nice close up pictures. Patterns are included.

Arnold, Janet, *Patterns of Fashion The cut and construction of clothes for men and women c.1560-1620*, New York: Drama Books, 1991.

This book is excellent for researching Tudor through Elizabethan clothing. Good clear photographs are included from extant garments. The patterns are not for beginning stitchers.

Elizabeth Benns and Gina Barrett, *Tak V Bowes Departed: A 15th Century Braiding Manual Examined*, England: York Publishing Services, 2005.

A period manual on fingerloop braiding. The history was very interesting however the notation system was very difficult to follow.

Gardiner, Julie ed., and Michael J. Allen ed., *Before the Mast: Life and Death Aboard the Mary Rose Vol. 1*, Portsmouth England: Oxbow Books, 2005.

An amazing source book for anything shipboard related to the 1545 era. This is a modern archeology book on the finds from the Mary Rose. It contains items which were wood, cloth, leather or bone, but not metal.

Gardiner, Julie ed., and Michael J. Allen ed., *Before the Mast: Life and Death Aboard the Mary Rose Vol. 2*, Portsmouth England: Oxbow Books, 2005.

The second printing of the book broke it into two sections, due to its' length. See above review.

Hill, Thomas (Richard Mabey ed.) *The Gardener's Labyrinth*, England: Oxford University Press, original publication 1525, reprinted 1987.

While this is a great gardening resource, I used this book to find a woodcut of a strawberry plant to base the embossing of the book cover design.

Horn, James, *A Land As God Made It: Jamestown and The Birth of America*, New York: Basic Books, 2005.

A history book about the voyage and conditions of the settlers coming to Jamestown.

Huggett, Jane and Ninya Mikhaila, *The Tudor Child Clothing and Culture 1485 to 1625*, Fat Goose Press Ltd., 2013.

An excellent book on children's clothing. It has both research and patterns. I have not found the patterns to be very accurate on American clothing sizes. They tend to run

small and tops do not always match bottoms for sizing. However it is a simple step to enlarge the patterns. The book is not a beginning sewing book.

Hume, Ivor Noel, *The Virginia Adventure Roanoke to James Towne*, Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1994.

A recounting of the English attempt to settle Virginia. It is written by a funny archeologist making it's thick size less daunting.

Johnson, Caroline, *The King's Servants Men's dress at the accession of Henry VIII*, Surrey: Fat Goose Press Ltd., 2009.

This book was used more as a reference book on color and number of garments needed to complete a wardrobe.

Johnson, Caroline, *The Queen's Servants Gentlewomen's dress at the accession of Henry VIII*, Surrey: Fat Goose Press Ltd., 2011.

This book was used for some of the finishing details on the shirts.

Kelso, William M., *Jamestown the Buried Truth*, Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2006.

General history book.

Mikhalia, Ninya and Jane Malcolm-Davies, *The Tudor Tailor Techniques and Patterns for making historically accurate period clothing*, Hollywood: Costume and Fashion Press, 2006.

The first in the series of Tudor Tailor books. I used it for color and general wardrobe advice.

Handout from Isobel Bedingfield "Middle Class Elizabethan Men's Clothing: 1570-1600"

An excellent handout about Elizabethan Men's Clothing, received at a University class, Fall 2013.

Portable Antiquities Scheme, <http://finds.org.uk/database/search/results/objecttype/fish+hook>
Web site with metal detector finds, which have been registered in England..

http://www.flyfishinghistory.com/treatyse/treatyse_frontis.htm

website with a rough translation of the *The Treatyse of Fishing with an Angle*.

<http://www.luminarium.org/renascence-editions/berners/berners.html>

Website without a translation of *The Treatyse of Fishing with an Angle*. Included are scans of the original block print pictures from the treatise.

http://libweb5.princeton.edu/visual_materials/hb/cases/blindtooling/index.html

Website with good, clear pictures of Tudor books. The website will allow you to greatly enlarge the images, so you can see details. Only a minimum of information is provided for each book. However there are several books.

<http://www.gentlemenoffortune.com/tricorne.htm>

Website with scholarly articles on pirate clothing, I was looking specifically at the Monmouth cap.