

Measurements Needed for Military Coats

Historical Costume Services

How to take the Measures

Have someone else take your measures, if possible.

Because of physiological changes of your body during movement, self-inflicted measures often have errors, sometimes to the point of being impossible to take. If possible, wear the clothes that you will be wearing under the coat or jacket, or wear clothes of comparable thickness when you have your measurements taken. In this way, the coat will fit smoothly without binding. When taking measures the tape should be held easily and naturally, neither held slack nor drawn tight. When taking measures of the circumference of the arm, the arm should be flexed to get the maximum dimension and avoid constraint.

Measures Needed - Have the following measurements taken, writing each one down as taken.

- _____ Neck over shirt and stock or neck-cloth
- _____ Distance from base of neck to shoulder joint
- _____ Across back of shoulders, from shoulder joint to shoulder joint
- _____ Shoulders across the shoulder blades between the sleeve seams
- _____ Length of front, from top of shoulder to hip bone
- _____ Length of front, from top of shoulder to crotch
- _____ Length of front, from top of shoulder to top of knee
- _____ Length of back, from bony area at base of neck to tailbone
- _____ Circumference of chest, measured just under the armpits
- _____ Circumference of waist at the top of the hip bone (just below navel)
- _____ Length of arm from joint of shoulder to wrist bone with the arm hanging down
- _____ Length of arm from point of shoulder to elbow with arm bent
- _____ Circumference of arm at shoulder, measured over the shoulder joint.
- _____ Circumference of bicep of arm when flexed
- _____ Circumference of forearm when flexed
- _____ Measure from front of armpit, across breast to front of opposite armpit, then divide in half to get the distance from the front of arm to the center front of the coat.
- _____ Scye depth – measured from the top of the shoulder to the bottom of the armpit

Questions? Contact me at 781-963-9645, or hcooke4@verizon.net

Materials Needed:

- Cloth (if making a new pair of breeches)
- Shears
- Hand Sewing Needles
- Sewing Machine (if desired)
- Cotton machine thread (if using a sewing machine)
- Linen Thread (for hand sewing -size 35/2 or 40/2 preferred)
- Silk Twist (buttonholes on silk or woolen breeches)
- Beeswax
- Tailor's Chalk or Quilters Pencils
- Pins
- Pencils and erasers
- Yardstick