

Civilians

Women, Men & Children

Impressions for "Cause & Country: Serving the Soldiers" should closely match the following guidelines. If you have any questions about the guidelines or need help, do not be afraid to ask. We are all learning together.

Women's Clothing

1. All materials will be natural fibers; cotton & wool are the most common. *Absolutely* no synthetic fibers will be allowed.

2. Proper undergarments are required. Petticoats are required to get the proper shape of the period. While a corset is not required, it is strongly encouraged. A chemise & drawers add to the authenticity of an impression.

- a. Ladies will not wear modern clothing under period garments. No t-shirts, sweatpants, jeans, etc., will be allowed. If these are seen you will be asked to change.



*Undergarments, except
petticoats*

3. Stockings & shoes must be worn at all times. Stockings should be solid white cotton or wool that reaches to at least the knee. Shoes need to be a period style, black or brown with a square-ish toe with little or no heel. *Absolutely* no modern tennis shoes will be allowed.
4. Dresses should be appropriate for daytime programs. No ball gowns or "dinner" dresses will be worn during day-time programs as these items are reserved for evening wear. Dresses will be ankle length and long sleeve. Cotton and wool are the best fabrics for work/day dresses.
 - a. Dresses will be made of one fabric. Solid color cotton dresses are discouraged. Period prints, stripes and plaids are all acceptable. Period laundry standards would fade solid color cottons too quickly for them to be considered economic garments. Dresses will be as one a piece garment, no separate blouses and skirts.



Various Day Dress Examples. L to R: Nice dress worn with bonnet. Day dress in small plaid with belt. Nice day dress with decorative coat sleeve and fashion belt.



Work Dress Examples. L to R: Dress with sleeves rolled. Dress with skirts pulled up showing "work petticoat" Lady doing outside laundry, wearing sun bonnet, & shawl with sleeves rolled up and skirts pulled up out of the way.

5. No white/"garibaldi" blouses & skirt combos will be worn. This outfit was inspired by a high-fashion ensemble of the period that was worn by fashionable young ladies. The outfit was usually made of fine silk, not cotton.
6. Hair should be confined at the neck in a chignon or bun. Hair is parted in the center and pulled away from the face. No modern hair accessories (elastics, clips, etc.) should be visible.
 - a. If hair is too short to style consider a *matching* hair piece or wearing a cap.
 - b. *Absolutely no snoods will be worn.*

- c. A fine, dark net may be worn over dressed hair. These are often adorned with ribbon for decoration.
7. Bonnets are acceptable headwear. Straw hats should not be worn by ladies of mature age.

- a. Fashion bonnets come in a variety of shapes and styles. Check with period images to ensure you are getting the proper shape. No wool felt bonnets. Only silk covered buckram and straw forms.
- b. Slat or corded bonnets are great for working impressions and for keeping sun off of the face and



Lady wearing fashion bonnet

neck. These are usually made of light cotton or sheer wool.

8. Women should wear appropriate outerwear, to include capes, jackets, shawls, etc. Women should not wear men's military coats/jackets. Also remember mittens, gloves, scarves, hoods, should be made of wool for more warmth and accuracy unless allergies do not allow the use of wool.



Lady in Coat, Bonnet, and Muff

9. Aprons are a great accessory for a working impression and are very useful. Aprons are worn to protect the dress from being soiled. Aprons should cover a majority of the skirts, either a half apron or a "bib" apron in a period print or plaid. Please *no* solid color or white cotton aprons. White aprons were usually reserved for servants or specific charitable work.



Ladies wearing pinner aprons

10. Accessories should be appropriate to persona. Women will not carry or wear military items. This includes haversacks, military belts, buckles and hats.

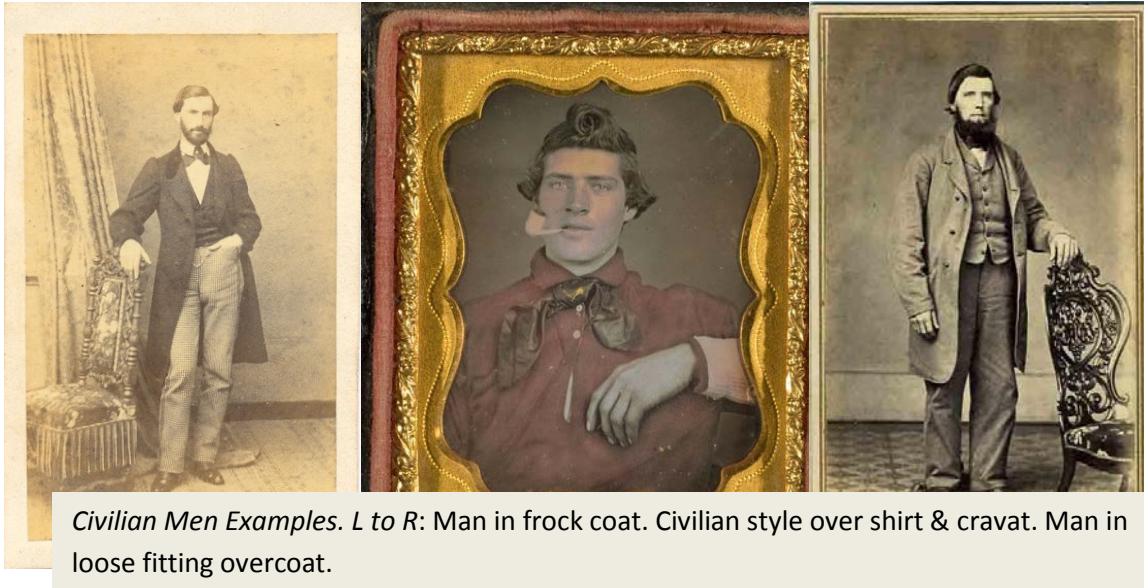
- a. Appropriate ladies accessories include small purses, fashion belts, gloves, shawls, etc.



Fashion Ensemble with accessories

Men's Clothing

1. Men portraying civilians may not wear any military equipment. This includes jackets, hats, belts, vests, etc.
2. Civilian men should wear appropriate attire for their impression at all times. This includes trousers, a shirt, a jacket or over shirt, and a hat.
3. Trousers should be wool or a cotton/wool blend cut in a civilian's style with fall front or fly front opening. Cotton canvas and linen trousers are appropriate for summer wear.
4. Shirts will be made of only one fabric in either a period plaid/stripe or in solid white, 100% cotton.
5. Jackets, coats, and over shirts need be a civilian cut and style. Military jackets will not be worn while portraying a civilian. These jackets are usually made of wool or cotton/wool blends.



6. Period shoes are to worn at all times. Brogans, boots, or shoes are all acceptable. Modern shoes will not be worn at *any time* during the event.
7. Civilian vests are constructed differently than military ones. Wool or silk fronts are the most common in the period. Vests should be backed in either black or brown cotton. The vest closes in front with buttons.
8. Suspenders made should be constructed in a period style. No "Y" backs.
9. There are a variety of civilian hat styles available. Military style hats or any military insignia on a hat will not be allowed while portraying a civilian. Felt or straw are acceptable.

10. It is recommended that men portraying civilians have a period trade or skill. A researched impression of a farmer, minister, grocer, etc. would be an improvement to any impression.
11. Appropriate accessories are encouraged. Appropriate cravats, pocket watches, gloves, wallets, etc. Keep your individual persona in mind when choosing accessories.

Children- At least to age 16

1. All children participating in an event will be in period clothing.
2. It is strongly encouraged that they bring and play with period appropriate toys and activities.

Infants

Children in the 19th Century dressed almost the same until they were potty-trained. This means that both boys and girls wore dresses or frocks that extended past the feet until they were crawling or walking.

- a. Infants wear plain long gowns that cover the feet. Small white caps are worn to protect their head from sun. Girl's hair is parted in the middle, while boy's hair is to be parted on the side. In many ways, this is usually the only way to tell infant boys and girls apart.



Boys- toddler to age 16

1. Boys of any age under 16 should not wear military uniforms.
2. Toddler boys should be clothed in knee length breeches and shirts that button to the waistband of the pants.
3. Until about the age of 6 or 7 boys are allowed to wear tunics with knee breeches.
4. After the age of 6 or 7 boys should start dressing like their fathers. This means they are allowed to wear long pants, jackets, etc.



5. Period (*looking*) shoes are expected to be worn at all times. Avoid modern tennis shoes and boots. Plain black or brown laced shoes are acceptable.

Girls- toddler to ages 16-18

1. Girls are required to wear dresses at all times.
2. Girls are also expected to wear proper undergarments. At least two petticoats are required.
 - a. Little girl's undergarments include chemise, stays, drawers and petticoats.
 - i. Girls drawers should reach to just below the knee, not ankle length. It is ok for girls drawer to "peek" out beneath skirts.
3. Period shoes and stockings are expected to be worn at all times. White knee socks or cotton tights would be considered appropriate. The most period appropriate modern shoe is a plain pair of black Mary-Jane style shoes.
4. Girls dresses can be short sleeved with shorter skirts. Girl's skirts fall anywhere between the knee and the ankle. Growth tucks are added in order to add length to the skirt as the child grows. A skirts length depended on the age of the girl. By mid-teenage years girls skirts should be between the lower calf and ankle.



Various girl's styles. L to R: Sisters in short sleeve dresses. Young girl in long sleeve dress with appropriate skirts. Teen in short sleeves with long skirts.

5. Girls should wear proper outerwear during cold events. Capes, shawls, and jackets are all appropriate for girls. Girls should not wear any military garments.
6. Girls should wear pinafores over their dresses in order to keep them clean. Pinafores of the period covered a majority of the dress. They were one piece garments with full skirts

and no sleeves. They often buttoned in the back and were made of prints or plaids. White pinafores are appropriate for special occasions.

7. Bonnets and hats are appropriate for girls. Fashion bonnets and sun bonnets are both appropriate for girls. Straw hats may be worn that have a low crown and are decorated appropriately with ribbons, etc.

Girls corded sun bonnet

