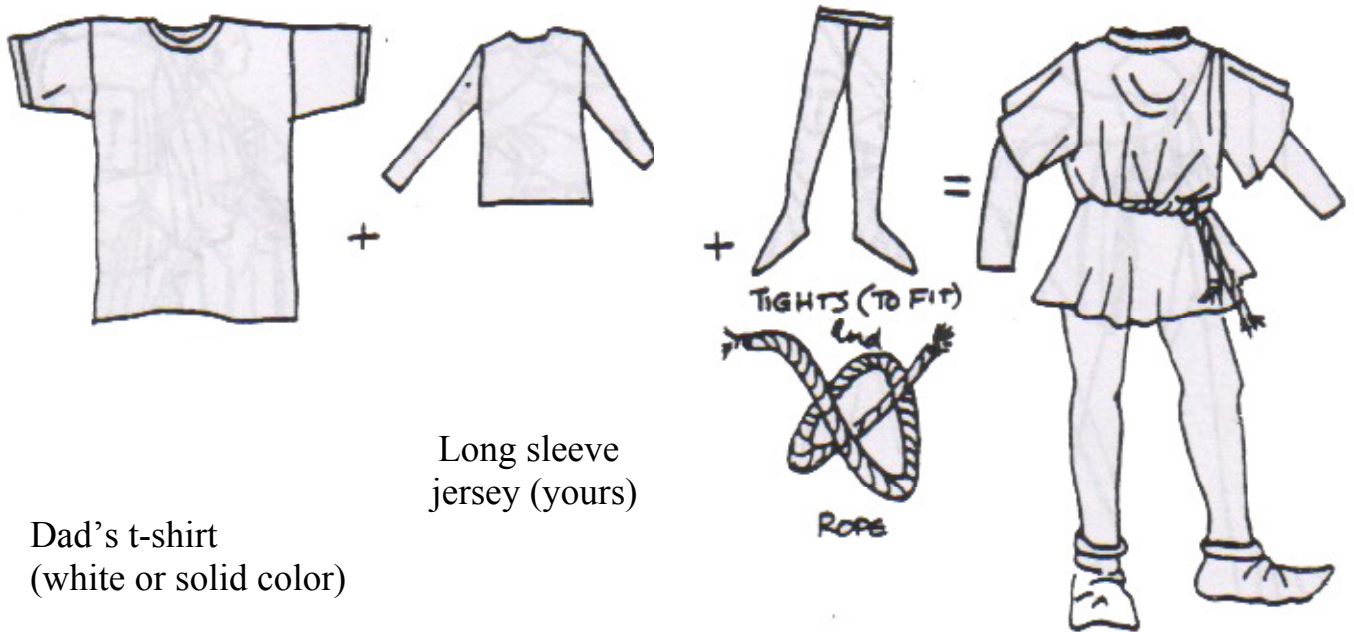


Simple Everyday Renaissance Costumes For Men



Boys can build this costume because it uses simple materials, on hand. Heavy socks pushed down to ankles, worn with regular shoes works well.

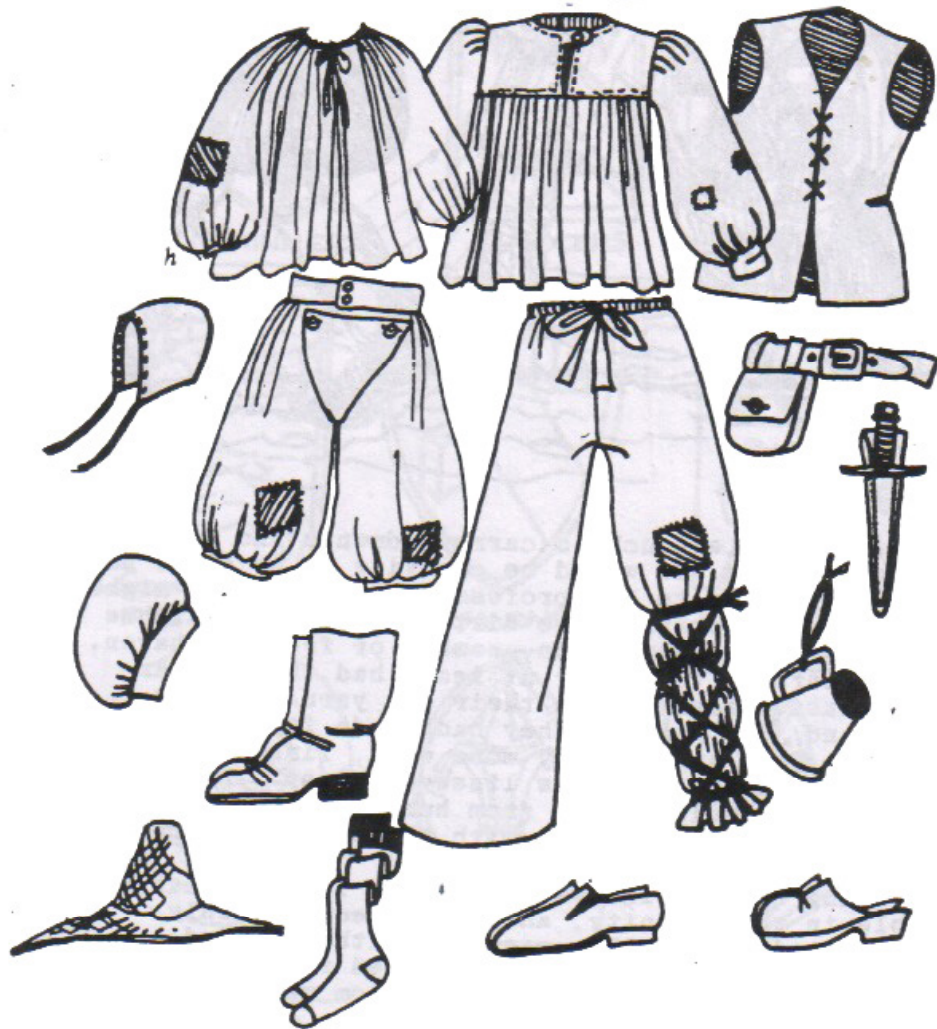
Boots: Brown leg warmers or sewn suede-cloth cylinders, tied with suede-cloth strips.

Men's Fashion: An Overview

Lower Class:

A peasant man would wear at least a shift or shirt, and breeches of some kind. He might wear a laced-up or buttoned jerkin (vest) with or without sleeves over this, and some kind of hat with a biggins (coif) underneath to keep his shaggy hair out of his eyes. All but the poorest would have cloth hosen (stockings) and shoes, or if he wore no hosen, he might have bare legs or long breeches similar to pajama pants, cross-gartered from ankle to knee. Cross-gartered breeches were commonly worn by the lower classes since before the Conquest, 500 years before. He would have a cape in cold weather.

Peasant mix-and-match clothing



Peasant Men



At his belt would be a pouch to carry oddments and a small knife for eating purposes. He would be carrying on or about his person, objects pertaining to his profession, whatever it might be. His clothing would probably have dirt and holes or patches on it, and his body was seldom clean, combed or freshly shaven.

Fabrics were coarsely woven, or at least had that appearance. The lower classes mostly spun their own yarn and wove their own cloth, and just because they had to do it did not mean that they were good at it. They wore wool, linen and combinations of the two fibers, such as linsey-woolsey. They also wore leather when they could get it from hunting, and they lined their winter clothes and capes with the skins of rabbits and squirrels.

Colors for dyeing the fabrics were obtained from vegetable sources available in the vicinity, and consisted of mainly earth colors and muted tones. Blue was done with woad and indigo, yellow with saffron or onion skins, red from madder or cochineal, orange from the safflower, brown from weld.