

# Tudor Clothing



Elizabeth I loved jewelled clothes and is said to have left over 2,000 decorated dresses hanging in her wardrobe when she died. Most ordinary people wore clothes similar to those of the rich and fashionable people but they were simpler and made from cheap materials like wool or linen. Children were usually dressed in smaller versions of their parents' clothes.

Rich Elizabethan women wore a lot of clothes each day. They wore a thick petticoat. Over this went a bodice and a skirt. The skirt was held up by hoops and padded at the hips. An outer bodice and skirt went over this and on top of that there was a gown, which went down to the floor.



Rich men wore a linen shirt and a tight-fitting jacket called a doublet. Over there was another jacket which came out over the hips. They wore stockings and padded breeches instead of trousers. Most wore a velvet or fur hat.

These are words that would have been used for different parts of the clothing. Find out what each refers to and write a description.

Stomacher	
Farthingale	
Gown	
Doublet	
Jerkin	
Cloak	
Ruff	

'They have great and monstrous ruffs made of the finest cloth that can be got for money. Some be a quarter of a yard deep, some more, very few less. The Devil in the fullness of his malice first invented these great ruffs.'

Here is a description of a ruff that was written during Elizabeth's reign by a man called Philip Stubbes.

Why do you think he described the ruffs as being the invention of the Devil?

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Write down what you would consider to be 2 bad things about wearing a ruff:

- 1.
- 2.

Write down 3 modern forms of neck wear which a Tudor person might find surprising:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.