

This is an overview class. We will discuss the most common Hats and Head coverings for men and women in North Western Europe from 900-1600.

Scarf

- Prehistory to current, basic squares and rectangle of linen. Easily washed. Generally assumed to have been worn by women, but men wear bandanas today so I speculate all genders may have used basic linen squares for head coverings.

Birka hat

- Found in Birka Sweden. The find at Birka dates to 980. This cap is made of 4 panels. The one found at Birka is made of tabby woven wool but the pattern may derive from when leather was used. This cap may have had fur around the bottom for added warmth.
http://www.academia.edu/11015690/Functional_Viking_Headpiece_from_the_Birka_Archeological_Site



Jorvic Cap/hood

- 1000-1200 A silk cap with linen ties was discovered in the Coppergate digs. It is 8 inches deep and 24 inches long with finished edges. The fiber content of the cap itself was a silk tabby woven cloth. The ties at the chin are made of linen cloth sewn into stout ribbons.
<http://genvieve.net/sca/vikingcap.html>



Skjoldehamn hood

- 1050-1090 A body was found in a bog near Skjold harbor (Skjoldehamn), re-dated to 1050 to 1090 CE. The outfit included a hood made of a two-tone woolen 2/2 twill, the shape of which was formed of rectangles and squares. Square pieces form gores in the front and back. The gores are set in on their corner forming points in the center front and center back. The hood was constructed with seams stitched together from the outside with a running stitch, and additional decorative sewing was added along the seam lines. The bottom edge of the hood was hemmed with a whip stitched taken thru the flat edge.
<http://www.ceilingpress.com/Resources/SkjoldehamnFindInLightofNewKnowledge.pdf>



Phrygian Cap

- During the 11th and 12th centuries, it was worn extensively used in Western Europe and Asia Minor. A Phrygian cap is a cap, which has a tallish center, which can be pulled forward.



Coif

- 12th-13th Century Coif are usually made of linen and are caps worn very close to the head. Pictorial evidence shows some coifs have a single seam down the center while others are made in three pieces. Often worn alone by the lower classes and under a hat or cap by the upper classes. Frequently seen worn under battle helmets. This type of head covering is seen on men and children in the 12th and 13th C. texts. Coif fits close to the skull with ties fastened or left loose.

<http://www.larsdatter.com/coifs.htm>



Veil, Barbette, Wimple

- Worn by women from 12-14th Century.
- A veil is usually an oval or rectangle of white linen. There are written accounts of silk veils for the very wealthy. Pinning to hair under the veil can hold on veils or if one prefers, one can use a linen band around one's head to pin to.
- A barbette is a strap of linen worn under one's chin. Often paired with a veil or torse (pill box type hat) Sometimes with a fillet or even a simple piece of decorative trim.



- A wimple is a veil paired with an under chin drape. (terrific tutorial - <https://cardiffcastlegarrison.wordpress.com/2014/08/11/how-to-wear-fourteenth-century-veils-and-wimples/>)

Hoods

- One of the most common headcoverings. Hoods with plain, dagged or cut edges are well documented in the period. They are seen in 'Book of the Hunt' by Gaston Phoebus, the 'Tres Riches Heures' of the Duc de Berry, as well as illuminations and marginalia. 13th C hoods started out with a straight edge on the bottom.
- Over time dagging was added as well as other embellishments such as button front and super long lappets.

(http://thehoodedhare.com/making_hoods.htm)



- **Turn hood into chapeaux –**
- 1400s
 - Turn your hood face first and make a roll, put on head and flop the dags about!



Bycocket style

- 1300-1450 You can use a modern felt hat and re-block it or start from felt and block one. One can also make one from fabric.

<https://themedievalhunt.com/tag/bycocket/>



15th C – 16th C

Richard III cap

- Made of either felted knitting or fabric. This distinctive style stayed active until well into the 16th C. The brim is 3 separate pieces and could be worn all turned up or with one section turned down.



White square of linen

- was popular with middle and lower class women. Worn pinned in back. This square can also be seen worn as a shawl across women's shoulders. The goal was to show what a great wife you were because you had a surfeit of clean, white, linen.



Flat Hat

- 15th-16th C. worn by both men and women. Knitted in wool and then felted. This was also a common process for other hats and caps of the mid 16th C.



White women's coifs

- 1580-1620 could be embroidered or plain white. Often the foundations on which other caps or hats were worn. Could be worn autonomously when indoors. The coif was sometimes paired with a forehead scarf.



Straw hats

- Straw hats are appropriate for middling and lower-class people. The shape usually has a shallow tip and somewhat broad brim. Since straw was readily available, and most women could make straw rows, weaving them together to make a hat was very common.



Foundational Hats

- These are hats, which rely on a stiff foundation of felt, buckram, or sometimes stiffened pater. They were generally gender neutral. Tall pleated hats - (<http://thehoodedhare.com/museum-hats.pdf>)



Janet Arnold - Patterns of Fashion
p.34

Bibliography of good hat books and resources

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