



VIKING COSTUME BASKET

CONTENTS:

- Linen undertunic (pink)
- Wool overdress with pewter tortoise brooches and glass beads
- Tablet woven belt with horse hair
- Woolen cloak
- Silk cap
- Leather slipper type shoes



This costume basket was donated to Archaeology Scotland by The Hidden Heritage Project.



VIKING COSTUME BASKET



A **linen underdress** is more comfortable against the skin than wool. Not all communities would have had the facility to process the plant flax into linen, so it would be a relative luxury.



The **woolen cloak** was wrapped around the body from the right elbow and fastened on the right shoulder, which enables the wearer to use their hands whilst keeping their body warm. The back can be pulled over the head as a hood.



It was considered respectable for women to have their heads covered, especially for married women. Silk would have been imported from India or China, which makes this a rare and expensive item. This **silk head dress** is copied from one found in York.



Tablet woven braid was used for decorating costume and for belts. Without pockets, pouches and utensils were hung from the brooches and belt.

Hangeroc or overdress in wool, tied or held by brooches. This very practical style of dress was developed from the universal tubular overdress worn across Europe in classical times. This overdress is based on an example found in Cumbria. The Old Norse (and Old English) word for dress is 'roc', from which we get 'frock'.



Simple **leather one-piece shoes**.

Pairs of brooches of different styles are typical of high status Viking female graves. The replicas are made of pewter, but the originals were silver.



VIKING COSTUME BASKET

CONTENTS:

- Linen undertunic (grey)
- Wool tunic (blue)
- Linen trousers
- Leather belt
- Woolen cloak with simple penannular brooch
- Woolen hat
- Leather slipper type shoes



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VIKING COSTUME BASKET

A **linen undertunic and linen trousers** were more comfortable against the skin than wool. Not all communities would have had the facility to process the plant flax into linen, so it would be a relative luxury.



Leather belt with bronze buckle and pewter strap-end. Without pockets, pouches and utensils were hung from the brooches and belt.



Penannular brooches were worn by both men and women to fasten cloaks.



The **woolen hat** is decorated with tablet braid weaving, which decorated clothes and was worn as a belt.



Simple **leather one-piece shoes**.



Tunic in wool with tablet woven braid trim. The bold colour of the hand-dyed cloth would soon fade in sunlight. The Old Norse and Old English word for tunic is 'kirtle', similar to 'Kurta', the Indo-Persian word for a similar garment still worn today in Asia.



The **woolen cloak** was wrapped around the body from the right elbow and fastened on the right shoulder, which enables the wearer to use their hands whilst keeping their body warm. The back can be pulled over the head as a hood.