

# EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to assist the new recruit with the assembly of the required kit, the Company has assembled the following list of necessary items and approved sources. The list is intended to save the recruit both time and *money* as the identified sources have been utilized in the past by our members with good results in both service and item quality. You will have an opportunity to visit some of the listed sutlers at scheduled events as they regularly attend and set up shop to sell their wares. This will provide an outstanding opportunity to shop around and compare prices and quality. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the unit. We will be glad to assist; as we have all been down this road ourselves. Please note that all listed prices are subject to change. The prices shown are as accurate as possible as of 5 February 2005, but may have changed since publication. Please check with the indicated vendor for the most current prices.

## I. MUSKET AND ACCESSORIES



The musket is the single most important equipment item of the Guardsman although it is not necessary to be the first item obtained. There are several reliable sources that can be used to obtain your musket and its required accessories. In addition to the listed commercial sources, a used musket can occasionally be obtained at one of the scheduled events during the year at a considerably reduced cost. Although the cost of a new musket is high, the investment should last your entire reenactment career.

### Musket

Dixie Gun Works	FR0810: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Model Brown Bess w/bayonet	\$850.80
	FR0825: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Model Brown Bess (kit)	\$695.00
Loyalist Armes, Ltd.	1728 First Model Brown Bess	\$610.00
	Bayonet	\$43.50
Bob Allegretto	Brown Bess, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Model	Inquire
Jarnagin	First Model Brown Bess Musket	
	Kit, w/assembled lock	\$725.00
	Kit, w/unassembled lock	\$650.00
Godwin	#2N Brown Bess	\$925.00

**Note:** Dixie Gun Works and Loyalist Arms will provide a fitted bayonet if requested at time of musket order. They will deliver with in one week of prepaid (credit card) order.

### Bayonet

Dixie Gun Works	BE0203: Bayonet for Brown Bess Musket	\$89.95
Godwin	#36: Mark 2 Brown Bess Bayonet	\$55.00

**Bayonet Scabbard**

Dixie Gun Works	#0244: Brown Bess Bayonet Scabbard	\$57.95
Godwin	#27T: Bayonet Scabbard	\$27.50

Your musket will arrive with a set of sling swivels already installed. Unfortunately, they probably are not period correct. We recommend their replacement with the following item:

**Musket Sling Swivels**

Godwin	#3NJ: Swivels, Musket Sling (pair) Note First or Second Model Brown BeEss	\$12.95
--------	---	---------

The British soldier was issued a white buff leather sling to help support and carry the musket when on the march. Although attachment of the sling to the musket swivels seems straight forward, we recommend that you let a veteran assist you in this process.

**Musket Sling**

Jarnagin	#MS2700: Musket Sling (White Buff)	\$23.50
Godwins	#64: White Buff Musket Sling	\$24.95
Najecki	“A’ Brown Bess English buff leather (note 1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> model)	\$25.00/29.00

There are two small important items required for safety. The hammer stall is designed to prevent the flint from accidentally sparking against the frizzen, thereby allowing the musket to discharge prematurely. Our unit requires that a musket be fitted with a hammer stall at all times except during the conduct of tactical exercises.

The flash guard is designed to deflect the powder flash from the flash pan straight up into the air and away from the guardsman standing to your right when you fire the musket in formation. The flash guard prevents your comrade from receiving a nasty powder burn to the left side of his face. Since we also have the best looking soldiers in the Brigade and would like to keep it that way, we require this item to also be fitted to the musket at all times.

**Hammer Stall (Frizzen Cover)**

Jarnagin	#FI712: (Frizzen Cover)	\$5.50
Godwin	#117: Frizzen Cover (Hammer Stall)	\$3.75

**Flash Guard**

Townsend	#FG-580: Flash Guard-British	\$6.00
----------	------------------------------	--------

You will also need several items to perform routine maintenance. The 18<sup>th</sup> century firearm required considerable care in the course of daily use. The listed items are the bare minimum that should be carried by a Guardsman. Additional maintenance and cleaning equipment can be obtained as required. We recommend that you consult with a “veteran” member of the company prior to buying these supplementary items.

**Musket Tools**

Godwin	#112: British Triangular Musket Tool	\$8.95
Townsend	#WP-599: Whisk and Pick	\$8.00
Godwin	#1: Whisk and Pick	\$5.95
Sjt. Cassell	Whisk and Pick	\$4.00

The Guardsman carried a unique 29-cartridge Cartridge Box to hold his ammunition. We have made arrangements with one specific sutler to produce this item to our exacting specifications.

**Cartridge Pouch**

Jarnagin	Rev War Brigade of Guards Cartridge Box	\$160.00
Company Stores		\$160.00

**Note:** When placing your order with Jarnagin, make sure you tell them that you are a member of the 4<sup>th</sup> Company, Brigade of Guards.

To complete the weapons portion of the individual kit, the prospective Guardsman should also have a light infantry axe and a double frog bayonet carriage. The bayonet carriage was a device that was worn over the right shoulder and across the left hip that allowed the Guardsman to carry at the ready both his bayonet in its scabbard and his light infantry ax. The unit will provide the guardsman with a black leather axe cover required for safety purposes for the pinkly sum of \$15.00.

**Light Infantry Ax**

Townsend	#TH-64: English Light Infantry Ax (cast)	\$25.00
----------	--	---------

**Bayonet Carriage**

Unit Stores	Buff Shoulder Carriage	\$60.00
-------------	------------------------	---------

A Coldstream Guards regimental badge is worn on the bayonet carriage over the point where it crosses the shoulder strap of the cartridge belt. The recruit opting for this impression can obtain the badge from the Company stores for \$16.00. A “veteran” will assist you with fastening the badge to the bayonet carriage in the proper manner.

Those members of the Company who desire to portray members of the First Regiment of Foot Guards need to procure the appropriate buckle to fasten the shoulder carriage. One can be obtained from the Company Stores for \$15.00.

Procurement of the preceding items will allow a Guardsman to “fight” as an effective member of the unit. Obtaining these items first will also allow the recruit to participate in and become proficient in the execution of manual of arms drill while the rest of his kit is assembled.

## II. UNIFORM AND ACCESSORIES

The next step is to make the recruit look like a Guardsman. We have probably the most striking and distinct uniforms in the British Army. Not only does the uniform look good, but it also attracts the girls whenever we appear in public. This is good. Assembling the uniform will take some time, as a good portion of the kit must be tailored to exacting specifications. As with the musket, there are several methods a recruit can use to procure uniform items:

- They can be purchased from commercial vendors;
- A reasonably competent tailor can make the uniform items;
- An understanding and supportive wife, girlfriend or both can make them;
- Members of the unit can assist, as some have become very accomplished tailors;
- You can make them yourself; or
- A combination of all the above.

From our combined experience, the last method listed is the most common.

### Regimental Coat

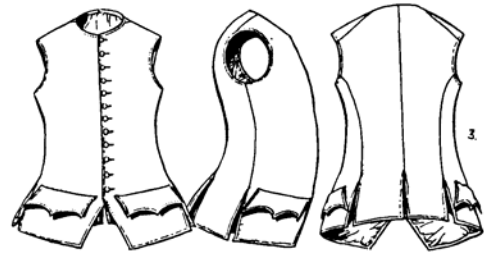
Guardsman Lloyd Morris (4 <sup>th</sup> Coy)	Regimental Coat	Inquire
--	-----------------	---------

The price includes the application of the white wool lace and the 44 regimental-specific buttons. The lace and buttons are details that distinguish the coat from all others in the British Army. To save costs, you can apply these items yourself, however, *Please seek assistance before you attempt to apply these items to the coat.* This process can be extremely dangerous to family relationships. The 44 Regimental buttons and the 4 yards of worsted lace that need be applied to the coat can be purchased from Company stores.

There are some members of the unit that will make the coat for you. The Company has an approved pattern. In this case, you are charged for the cost of the wool and linen (approximately \$200.00) and you must surrender your first-born son to the Regiment when he reaches 16 years of age.

**Waistcoat (Weskit)**

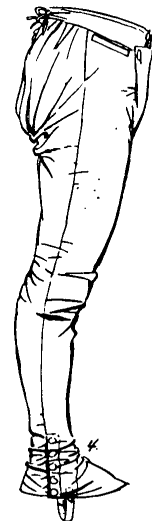
The Guardsman wore a white waistcoat (weskit) under the Regimental. Most members have hired a seamstress to make this uniform item. If you supply the recommended wool, the tailor usually charges from \$40.00 to \$60.00 to make the weskit. The Company has approved patterns. Commercial sources are available, but we have had better results with local tailors. Again, you can purchase the required 11 small Regimental buttons from Company stores.



Guardsman Lloyd Morris (4 <sup>th</sup> Coy)	Weskit	Inquire
Townsend	#SW-13: 1770's Waistcoat (White Wool)	\$75.00

**Trousers**

The unit wears distinctive brown linen gaitered trousers (overalls). We recommend that you have these tailored to your size and made either by yourself, a local tailor or a member of the unit. We do not recommend the use of commercial sources as the fit and color and quality of the cloth varies greatly. The Company has a considerable stock of the approved linen, which can be purchased for \$12.00 per yard. It usually requires 2-4 yards of brown linen and an equal amount of bleached (white) or brown linen/muslin or cotton to make a pair of lined trousers. Tailors usually charge from \$75 to \$100 to make a pair of trousers to these specifications with you providing the cloth. You will need 3 large domed pewter buttons, 8-10 small domed pewter buttons, and an 18-inch length of 1/8 inch rawhide thong/rope or cotton cord to complete the trousers. The buttons can be purchased from Company stores, the rawhide rope from any local leather supply or sporting goods store.



Coy Stores	Trousers	\$139.00
------------	----------	----------

**"Round" Hat**

The Company wears a modified hat, commonly called a "round hat," having historically discarded the traditional tri-cornered cocked hat on the voyage to America in 1776. The wool felt hat is cut down into a round hat, with brim bound in black worsted. It is worn cocked up on the left side, held in place with a white worsted loop around a regimental pattern button. It is also adorned with three black ostrich feathers, and a black horsehair cockade. It can be purchased from the Company for \$65.00. You must provide your hat size in inches. Don't forget to add additional inches (usually 1-1 and one-half inches) to your standard hat size to compensate for the wig that you will also be wearing under the hat.

**Army Shoes**

Godwin	Army Shoe	\$120.00
	#4 or s196: Brass Shoe Buckles	\$26.95
Townsend	#CS-925: Men's Shoes	\$110.00
	#CS-926: Men's Shoe Buckles (Brass)	\$30.00
Najecki	Crooked Shoe,, W/ hobnails	\$105.00

Each of the above sutlers supplies the shoes without the buckles attached. For those who are experienced in attaching the buckles, have at it. For those who would like some help, a Company member will gladly provide any needed assistance. We strongly recommend that the recruit, or veteran, break in his new shoes before participating in an event. It is also recommended that the recruit have a local cobbler attach hobnails to the heel of the shoe to provide some traction when moving overland and to extend the life of the wooden heels when marching on cobblestone or paved streets.

**Stockings**

Any white wool or cotton stocking or sock will do, as these are not (hopefully) visible to the public. We recommend that sweat absorbent cotton athletic socks be used at least until the shoes are broken in.

**Wig**

Godwin	Wig, Clubbed	\$105.00
Williamsburg	Clubbed Wig	\$125.00

The British enlisted man wore his hair pulled back into a single queue (ponytail) "clubbed" and tied with a black ribbon in the military fashion. Godwin's offers a wig closely matched to your natural hair color (you provide a sample) for a reasonable price. The wig is ordered by size: regular if your head size is smaller than 24 inches, or large if your head size is greater than 24 inches. There are other local commercial sources for wigs available, such as costume shops and commercial wig retail stores. We have found that the above source offers the best quality for the price. The unit will provide the recruit with the unique black leather rosette used as ornamentation on the club.

**Neck Stock and Buckle**

The enlisted man wore a black horsehair neck stock under his shirt collar to keep his head up and faced to the front. The neck stock also provided limited protection to the neck area against saber slashes and over-eager tavern wenches. The item is ordered by neck size. A Company member will assist you in sewing a strip of leather to the back of the neck stock to keep it rigid. Order the neck stock about one-half inch to 1 inch larger than your actual neck measurement to compensate for both the leather backing and the shirt collar that will go under the stock.



Godwin	Black Horsehair Neck Stock (by neck size)	\$19.95
	#86: British Enlisted Man's Stock Buckle	\$16.95

**Work shirt**

Townsend	#SH-124: 18 <sup>th</sup> Century Work shirt (white cotton)	\$36.00
Townsend	#CK-124 18 <sup>th</sup> Century Work shirt Checked)	\$36.00

We recommend the procurement of two white work shirts. This will allow for a change in clothing on those hot and humid days that we seem to schedule for our events. The checked shirt is also historically accurate, and we recommend the purchase of this item *after* the recruit has at least one plain white shirt.

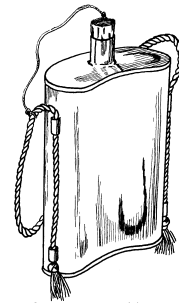
**III. OTHER KIT ITEMS**

The soldier required a bit more equipment to sustain him during a campaign. The following list contains the essential additional items to “round out” a recruit’s field kit.

**Tin Canteen**

Godwin	#9: Tin Canteen	\$36.00
Townsend	#TC-727: Tin Canteen	\$36.00
Carl Giordano - Tinsmith	Kidney-shaped Canteen (Neumann & Kravic)	\$28.00
Jarnagin	#NI4545: Ft. Ligonier Kidney Canteen	\$29.95

**Note:** Order the tin canteen and NOT the stainless steel version. This not only saves money, but tin is period correct.

**Knife**

Townsend	#KN-158: Soldier's Knife	\$20.00
Godwin	#301: Townsman's Knife	\$13.95

The above style knife (similar to the jack-knife) was very common with the enlisted soldier. It performs double duty as an eating utensil.

**Fork**

Godwin	#136: Soldier's Eating Fork	\$4.75
--------	-----------------------------	--------

**Spoon**

Godwin	#163: Ribbed Rat Tail Spoon	\$14.25
--------	-----------------------------	---------

**Wooden Bowl**

Godwin	#493: 8 inch Wooden Bowl	\$9.95
Townsend	#WB-898: Wooden Bowl	\$9.00

**Tin Plate**

Townsend	#TP-29: Tin Plate	\$9.00
----------	-------------------	--------

**Tin Cup**

Townsend	#TC-834: Tin Cup (Pint)	\$4.50
Godwin	#159: Soldier's Tin Cup	\$4.95
Jarnagin	#300RW: 18 <sup>th</sup> Century Tin Cup	\$9.50

**Haversack**

The above eating utensils and daily rations were normally carried by the soldier in a linen haversack. A kit is available from Najecki for \$14.00. It is easy to construct and can easily be finished in one evening while watching the History Channel. If, however, you feel you will seriously injure yourself sewing the pieces together, Najecki offers a completed haversack, stamped with the Broad Arrow for \$40.00

**Wool Blanket**

Massachusetts Army Navy	MEB1060: British Military Wool Hospital Blanket	\$34.99
----------------------------	--	---------

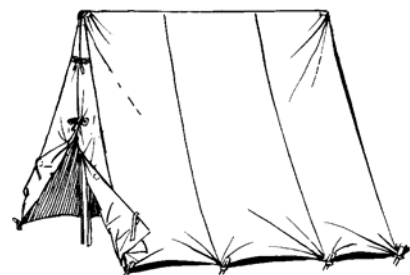
**Knapsack**

The enlisted man's white goatskin knapsack was another distinctive item of equipment used by the soldier while on campaign. Everything a soldier owned had to be carried on his back. The company has a limited number available in its stores, please inquire as to availability and price.

**Tent**

Tentsmiths	British Infantry Tent (Sunforger fabric) 6' X7' X6' with 1'3" Bell ( <i>without mud flaps</i> )	\$210.00
------------	--	----------

A tent is a "nice to have" item. Usually one can double up with a company mate on encampments. If you decide to order a tent, ensure that you request the 2 upright tent poles, the ridgepole, and 14 metal tent pegs (13" long). A unit member will provide the required "Broad Arrow" stamp used to mark the item as property of the King.



## **THE FINISHED PRODUCT**

Front view showing the various Regimentals worn by members of the 4<sup>th</sup> Company, Brigade of Guards portraying privates. The guardsman on the left is wearing the regimental of the First Regiment of Foot Guards. The guardsman in the middle is wearing the regimental of the Third Regiment of Foot Guards. The guardsman on the right is wearing the regimental of the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards. Note the differences in the white lacing and button arrangements as well as the bayonet carriages and buckles. Also of interest is, and the length of the trousers and their tight fit in the calf.



Rear oblique view of the same guardsmen showing the cut of the Regimental and the two styles of badges worn on the cartridge box. The private assigned to the First Regiment of Foot Guards (far left) has a distinctive badge. Note the clubbed hair and the turn-backs of the regimental coats.



Rear view of the same guardsmen highlighting the length of the regimental coat and the different patterns of the white wool lacing according to the assigned Regiment of Foot Guards. Note the location of the cartridge boxes, just behind the right hip.



*Photos courtesy Deborah Callaham, Tryon Palace, New Bern, NC October 2000*

**IV: SUTLERS:**

**Military Warehouse**

P.O. Box 406,  
Corinth, MS 38835  
(662) 287-8234 (orders)  
(662) 328-9462 (FAX/orders)  
Web site: [milwarehouse.com](http://milwarehouse.com)

**G. Gedney Godwin**

Box 100  
Valley Forge, PA 19481  
(610) 783-6083 (FAX)  
Web site: [ggodwin.com](http://ggodwin.com)

**Jas. Townsend & Son, Inc.**

133 North First Street  
P.O. Box 415  
Piercetown, IN 46562  
1-800-338-1665 (orders)  
(219)-594-5580 (information)  
E-mail: [jastownffjastown.com](mailto:jastownffjastown.com)

**Tentsmiths**

Box 1748 87 Main Street  
Conway, NH 03818  
(603) 447-2344 (orders/info)  
(603) 447-1777 (FAX)  
E-mail: [tentsffmoose.com](mailto:tentsffmoose.com)

**Roy Najecki Reproductions**

1203 Reynolds Road  
Chepachet, RI 02814  
e-mail: [Roy@Najecki.com](mailto:Roy@Najecki.com)  
Web site: [najecki.com](http://najecki.com)

**Massachusetts Army-Navy**

15 Fordham Road  
Boston, MA 02134-3000  
1-800-343-7749 (orders)  
(617) 254-6607 (FAX)

**Loyalist Arms**

1137 Old Sambro Road  
Harrietsfield, Halifax  
Nova Scotia, Canada B3V 1B1  
(902) 479-0967  
Web site: [www.loyalistarms.com](http://www.loyalistarms.com)

**Dixie Gun Works, Inc**

Reelfoot Ave.  
Union City, TN 38261  
1-800-238-6785 (orders)  
(901) 885-0700 (information)

**Carl Giordano, Tinsmith**

P.O Box 74  
Wadsworth, OH 44282  
(330) 336-7270 (orders)  
(330) 334-2057 (FAX/orders)  
Web site: [cg-tinsmith.com](http://cg-tinsmith.com)