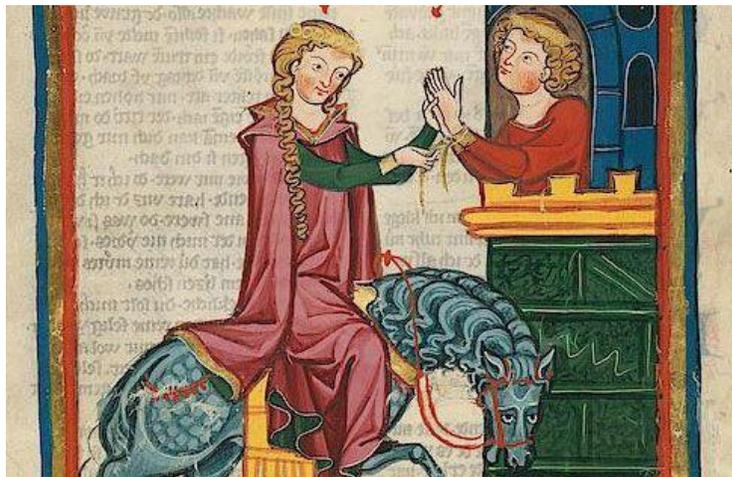


13c to 14c garderober

When I heard about the stash busting aspect of this Festival of the Rose, I was inspired to do something with some herringbone wool that I had purchased sometime back. After I purchased it, I decided it was too heavy for what I had originally planned, but an outer garment would be great. With Great Western War a month later than previously years, there is a possibility that an over garment will be needed and I really only had one overgarment. I went looking for overgarments in the 1200 to 1400 range and found the garderober. This piece was worn by both men and women, primarily as a traveling garment, with many depictions found in manuscripts and sculptures.¹



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

Sources depict the arms of the garderober either having a slit in the upper arm, or the lower part of the armscye was not sewn allowing the arm to fit through, as the sleeves were often portrayed as too long to be useful.

I liked the look of the images that seemed to have the bottom of the armscye unsewn, and that also seemed an easy method of construction. The length of the garment tends to be very long in most of the images but keeping in mind they mostly portrayed wealthy women or

¹ <https://evashistoricalcostumes.blogspot.com/p/a-pink-gardecorps-from-c-1300.html>

heroines; I had no problems cutting this a bit shorter. This will keep the benefit of keeping the undergarments clean and reduce the number of buttons & buttonholes needed while allowing me to use the fabric length that I had as full length would not have fit on the fabric. Due to the stash busting nature of the challenge, I had to make this fit on the fabric that I had available.



https://www.rajce.idnes.cz/koho/album/roucho-tzv-gardecorps#Codex_Manesse_1300-1340_D

[E_228.jpg](#)

Some images showed a partial front opening while others seemed to portray a fully open and buttoned front. That fully open front, with buttons, would be easier to put on so I preceded to draft a pattern with that. I based the shoulders and neckline off my existing kirtle pattern, the piece I would be most likely to wear under it, and shaped the body to an A line “dress” from there. I used an existing hood pattern and adjusted the neck to match the garderobe pattern, and the hood dimensions to get a cowl neck look when the hood was lowered. The body seams (shoulders, sides, hood) were sewn by machine and finished by hand with linen thread.



I flat lined the entire garment with linen. with the goal. of keep the lining under control and not bag out and tangling in use. The wool seam allowances were sewn down with either a running stitch (straight seams) or a herringbone (smaller and curved seams). The sleeves were finished separately, pleated at the top, and sewn to the shoulders from the back center to the front upper top, this placement feels like it gives the coverage and the drape that matches the images.

I tried to add a facing to reinforce the buttonholes, but there was a small measurement problem when cutting and not enough of the silk/cotton to fix it. The buttonholes were made on a sewing machine, but all the buttons were fabric buttons using the wool herringbone.

The hem was marked by a friend, lining and wool trimmed and I used a herringbone stitch to sew it down.

I am greatly looking forward to some cooler weather to wear this.