



Cold Weather LARPing

LARPing in the cold requires preparation and planning. Above all else, you want to stay warm and dry. With the right layers, accessories, and camping setup, you can make sure you stay as warm as possible during cold LARP nights!

Layers

Layers help you build a warm, dry kit. You'll want three layers to keep yourself comfortable while larping in the cold: a base layer, a middle layer, and an outer layer. Bring MORE than you need to make sure you don't go without—there's nothing worse than having a wet kit and no change of clothes!

- **Base Layer:** Your underwear layer. This layer is closest to your skin so it needs to keep you dry. Look for polyester, nylon, or natural materials like wool or silk. This layer should be lightweight if possible; it isn't meant to keep you warm! You will need a set of base layers for each day that you're LARPing. The following options are great examples of base layers:
 - [Moisture Wicking Athletic Shirt](#)
 - [Compression Base Layer Pants](#)
- **Middle Layer:** Your insulation layer. This layer helps retain your body heat; the more efficiently it traps heat, the better off you will be. Look for synthetic or natural materials like polar fleece or wool. This layer should be made of puffy or thick material.
- **Outer Layer:** Your last layer. This layer protects you from the elements. These layers tend to be pricey. Long cloaks made of polar fleece or wool do wonders against the wind, rain, and snow.

Accessories

These are some of the most important items in your winter kit! Make sure you're covered from head to toe to make sure you're comfortable and safe.

- **Socks:** Bring wool or wicking socks. Don't skimp—you need your feet warm! You should be changing your socks 2x per day when it is cold out.

- **Boots/Shoes:** If possible, bring two pairs of footwear so that you can switch if one gets wet. No flip flops in the cold! Your footwear should offer ankle support and have room to accommodate thicker socks.
- **Gloves:** Nothing hurts more than a weapon hitting your freezing fingers. Get a few pairs of lined gloves so that you can switch them out if they get wet.
- **Hat/Headband:** Heat escapes from your head, so cover up! Polar fleece headbands and wool knit hats are wonderful options; you can hide them with your hood if you don't like how they look.
- **Scarf:** Keep your neck warm! Scarves also look very fashionable!

Sleeping/Camping

It gets colder at night, and you'll want to make sure you conserve heat.

- **Blankets:** Bring more blankets that you think you'll need; you can always remove layers if you're too hot, but you can't add layers if you didn't bring them.
 - If you're sleeping in a bunk, bring a blanket to put between your sleeping bag and the mattress.
 - If possible, bring a blanket, sheet, or tapestry to hang up around the bunk like a curtain. You're trying to keep heat IN and cold OUT.
- **Sleeping Hat:** Wear a hat that covers your ears while you sleep.
- **Keep Your Clothes Warm:** Sleep with your clothes for the next day at the foot of your sleeping bag. They'll be warm for you in the morning!
- **Robe/Cloak:** Bring a robe or a cloak for bathroom trips so you don't lose your body heat on those nightly bathroom runs!

Food and Drink

Remember to eat and drink! Your body will produce more heat and be happier if it has the fuel to do so! Tea, hot chocolate, and instant ramen are easy to make if you have access to water and a kettle, and they go a long way towards warming you up if you've been out on a quest in the cold.

Extras

- **Heat Packs:** Pocket heat packs are wonderful for your toes and hands. Keep them in your pockets!
- **Plastic Baggies:** Use these to create a layer between your boot and sock! Your parents used to do this no doubt and it worked.