



43rd Georgia Volunteer Infantry **Uniform and Gear Requirements**

*"THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET, AND A
LIGHT UNTO MY PATH."
PSALM 119:105*

Each man shall be historically correct in the portrayal of a common line infantry soldier of the 43rd Georgia Vol. Infantry. Outlandish portrayals of ethnic groups such as but not limited to Scottish highlanders, Indians, etc will not be allowed. In addition, modern eyeglasses or shades should not be worn but rather period correct wire rim frames. No modern cigarettes, modern jewelry, wrist watches, or rail road bandanas will be allowed.

Please be aware that many "sutlers" within the re-enactment community have done little, if any, actual research into the garments and equipment that were worn during the War Between the States. Therefore, buyer beware! Do your research first by discussing with experienced unit members before plunking down a considerable sum of money.

General Appearance:

1. *Coats or Jackets* - Little trim or decorative tape should be used. All coats or jackets should be of period correct construction and materials. Burlap is also an acceptable choice. Hand sewing is best. All button holes will be hand sewn. Civilian coats should have brass "penny," thermo-plastic Goodyear, or wooden buttons. Military style coats or jackets can have the afore mentioned buttons including Federal issue Eagle, Block-I, Cast-I, or Georgia State Seal buttons.

Any of the Deep South patterns are acceptable (NO Richmond Depot jackets):

- a. Columbus Depot
- b. Alabama Mystery
- c. Military frock coat with little trim
- d. Civilian sack
- e. Civilian frock
- f. Commutation jackets

2. *Trousers* - shall be button fly, braces (suspenders) supported design. Wool, cotton, linen or wool/cotton jeans. Authentic designs only. No Federal issue patterns allowed (no yoke on rear.) NO sky blue pants. Buttons to be tin back, bone, mother or pearl or wood. Penny buttons can be used on fly. All button holes will be hand sewn. Mule ear pockets or straight pockets allowed. No rear pockets allowed. Watch pockets allowed. No outlandish plaids.

3. *Shirts* - period square cut shirts are best. Home spun materials made of cotton, linen or wool with milk glass, bone, or mother of pearl buttons. Usage of printed material is discouraged (except documented patterns.) Over shirts may be made of wool and have brass buttons in addition to the aforementioned. Button holes must be hand sewn. Printed patterns should be strongly avoided.

4. *Vest* – usage is optional, however if worn they must be made of correct material and style. Civilian styles are best. Button holes must be hand sewn. Buttons can be bone, wood, brass, mother of pearl.

4. *Shoes* – Should consist of "Jefferson" pattern brogans, straight last brogans or calf-tall boots. Civilian style brogans are acceptable. No rubber soles, East German combat boots, cowboy boots, or modern work boots. Shoes should be hand sewn and pegged. Cloth shoes Canvas Georgia Issue are also acceptable. Gaiters will be worn by cadet musicians ONLY!

5. *Socks* - Wool or cotton. Hand spun and hand knit are best. No modern tube socks, rag wool hiking socks or "red top" hunting socks.

6. *Hats* - Slouch hats are preferable. Hats should be of correct design or construction with lining. No havelocks, Crocodile Dundee's, pressed, unblocked felt, plumes, coon peckers, critter fur, etc. Hat brass is discouraged.

7. *Suspenders* - No nickel or chrome plated buckles. Buckles should be iron. Normally constructed of cotton material. Crocheted natural materials are acceptable. No elastic materials allowed

8. *Fire Arms* – acceptable firearms will include rifled and various smoothbore muskets as follows:

- a. M-1822 Springfield converted to percussion.
- b. M-1840 Springfield converted to percussion.
- c. M-1842 Springfield.
- d. M-1842 Austrian.
- e. P-1853 Enfield.
- f. NO Hawkins Rifle or musketoons (2-band) rifles allowed

Note - For the purpose of Nov. 1864 - April 1865 impressions, M-1861, 1863, 1864 Springfields are acceptable. Originals in safe working order are acceptable. All firearms will be kept in clean, safe working order. Pistols will be limited to officers.

Note - Swords are limited to officers and are to be originals or reproductions of designs manufactured before April 1865. Knives are limited to sheath and pocket styles. No "Arkansas Toothpick" or foot artillery swords knives. Sheath knives should be secured in a manner to prevent injury

9. *Accoutrements*: - (all gear should ride high; small of back the best!)

- a. Cartridge box - tins are required for safety purposes. M-1839, Enfield, painted canvas William Brands style, any of the Deep South stamped boxes acceptable.
- b. Cartridge box sling - canvas webbing, painted canvas or leather.
- c. Cap box - any of the Deep South stamped, Enfield, or painted canvas best.
- d. Canteen - Tin drum and wooden styles are best. Nathaniel Nuckolls (Echoes of Glory Confederate p.209) Post Nov. 1864 impression can have Federal canteens. Strap made of leather, jute twine, canvas, webbing, or ticking best. Avoid the large ugly knot to adjust strap. Length should be at small of back not to the thigh or especially the knees. Remove stopper chains and replace them with jute twine or leather strip.

e. Haversack - canvas (both plain or oil cloth,) ticking, or tapestry materials allowed. Button holes should be hand sewn. It seems the State did not issue haversacks so these do not have to conform to regulation size.

f. Knapsacks - Evidently the State did issue knapsacks. We are not sure what pattern but Mexican War styles are probably best.

g. Correct bayonet and scabbard is a MUST part of your gear. If you don't have one, get one.

10. *Tents* - Tents will consist of dog tents, A-frames (common tent). Officers and families may use wall tents. Flies will be used SPARINGLY due to the desire of maintaining a military camp impression.