

Materials for the coat were purchased from Roy Najecki of Rhode Island and consist of about 2 1/4 yards of Kochan and Phillips Madder Red Broadcloth, 2 yards of Royal Blue Bay, 1/3 yards of Royal Blue Broadcloth, some linen Buckram, and a natural linen for sleeve linings and pocket bags.



The pattern is chalked on to the fabric, which has been folded in half width-wise. The pattern was purchased from Henry Cooke of Historical Costume Services and will fit a man with a 42" chest.



All the pieces are cut and pinned together with their opposite pieces. Lapel, pocket, and pleat fold positions have been chalked on the front panels in the center of the picture with more pleat fold lines chalked on the back panels. Tailor tacks are then sewn onto the panels on the respective chalk lines.



The tailor tacks are cut and the panels separated. The pocket flap lining is attached and the top edge of the pocket is pressed down and attached. A slit has been cut open for the pocket bag. The bottom edge of the slit is pressed down and the pocket bag is attached.



The chest interfacing is attached to the front panels as well as the facing lapels. The hooks and eyes have also been set into the skirt tails.

a natural linen for sleeve linings and pocket bags.



The bay lining is basted onto the body of the coat. The raw edges of the skirts are folded over and attached with a running stitch.



The sleeves are sewn up and the cuffs attached. The body cuff is backstitched to the sleeves with the facing cuff (blue) topstitched to the body cuff. The bottom is folded over the sleeve and whipstitched to the inside of the sleeve.



Buttonholes are marked on the facing lapel. The 2" decorative buttonholes are started with false non-functioning buttonholes stitched to the cuff flaps.



The following is an instructional video on how to stitch buttonholes: [VIDEO](#)



The collar pieces are sewn and pressed
bags.



The coat body panels are sewn together beginning with the back panels. The side seam of the front panels with their respective shoulder seams is next.

First, pin the lining out of the way. This pattern calls for $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, which is quite large for original garments so you can remove it if you prefer. Backstitch all seams. Next, attach the sleeves by pinning the bottom sleeve into the armhole, then the top, stretching the top as needed. Again, backstitch it in place beginning with the bottom.



The lining can now be sewn together. One lining edge overlaps the other. Make sure the rear lining piece is always underneath – the two front linings will overlap each rear lining at the side seams. Next, fold the raw edge and whip stitch it down to the rear lining piece. Leave the front edge of the front lining piece by the lapels loose.



Begin attaching the mariners-style cuff treatment with the false button holes in the same way the pocket was attached.

The next step is to attach the collar to the coat and whip stitch the inside lining piece over the bay lining to close the top.

Top stitch on the lapels with the finished buttonholes. Cut open the buttonholes on the non-facing lapel and running stitch it to the front carefully so that it is not easily visible. Stitch the front lining closed with a running stitch.

Continue folding over the raw edge of the lining and close it around all of the tails.

Now, work three buttonholes equally between the bottom of the lapels with the third one ending at the top of the pocket or waistline of the coat.

Cut out a shoulder strap and attach it to the shoulder.

Press the pleats into the rear of the coat using the tailors tacks placed at the start. At the Fort Pitt Museum, we use a 12-pound iron along with a pressing cloth and oak board. Stitch them and attach buttons at the rear top vent and bottom corner.



Front panel: bring the bottom line to the top line. The middle line should be where the fold in the cloth is.



Back Panel: bring the bottom line to the top line again, however use the top line as a fold line to press the remaining fabric under, so that the back has two pleats.



Finished pleating should stand and is stitched closed at the top with a back stitch. A button is placed at the top and bottom, corded through the front panel and sewn in the rear panel.

Begin placing buttons. Using an awl, poke through the fabric. On the opposite side, run a piece of cord (linen, hemp, or leather) through the button shanks and stitch the cording down so it does not come loose.

Sleeve linings can be sewn up with a backstitch, pressed, and turned inside out. Place each in their respective arms, fold the edges over, and whip stitch down.



Finished inside of coat.

If you haven't done so already, begin removing all the basting stitches and try it on.



Finished coat on an interpreter of a Royal American in the First Battalion in 1759.