

Your Kilt Package

Thank you for purchasing your new kilt package from ScotClans, The following guide will help you to care for your new outfit and your kilt.

The Kilt

When you unpack your kilt allow it to hang for a little while to let any creases fall out (see 'The Jacket' below). It should be worn with the pleats to the rear, remember that the kilt is worn higher than normal trousers and that the bottom of the kilt should come to the centre of the knee. Make sure the kilt is centred properly and that the buckles are secure but not too tight. When new a kilt will come with tacking stitches, this is white cotton thread that runs loosely across the pleats, these should be removed, making sure all the stray bits of thread are taken out from under the pleats. It's far easier to put on the kilt then get someone to do this for you. The kilt is best kept stored rolled up (a purpose designed kilt carrier is ideal for this).

The Jacket

The jacket should be taken out and hung up to allow the creases to drop out (running a hot shower or bath and then letting the jacket hang briefly in your bathroom can help with stubborn creases). When worn the jacket shouldn't be buttoned. Most kilt jackets are made from 100% wool so should be dry cleaned only.

Belt & Buckle

If you are wearing a belt & buckle it should sit at the top of the kilt so that it covers the kilt's waistband. Some buckles can scratch easily across the face so make sure you pack these away after use. To attach your belt to the buckle take the long thin tongue part of the belt and feed it through the long slot on the back of the buckle, feed this through till the broad part of the belt is in place and use the small buckle on the back of the belt to secure the tongue (different for Velcro belts).

Sporran

The sporran is the main feature of the kilt and is attached with the chainstrap, just fasten this around your waist to the back of the kilt, the sporran will stay in place so there's no need to feed it through the belt loops. Don't let the sporran hang too low, this is a common mistake and will spoil the way the kilt hangs. The ideal height is usually 4 finger widths below the belt or bottom of the waistcoat.

Sgian Dubh & Kilt Pin

Translated as 'Dark Knife' This small-sheathed dagger is worn in the top of the kilt hose with only the handle visible. There are differing opinions about which side it should be worn however the simple answer is that if you are right-handed wear it on the left and vice-versa. The kilt pin should be pinned to the kilt apron and worn approximately 2" (5cm) from the side and 6" (15cm) from the bottom of the kilt.

Kilt Hose & Flashes

Pull the Hose (socks) up over the knee, attach the flashes just below the knee (the flashes hang to the outside of the leg) then fold the hose down allowing 2.5 - 3" of the flashes to show. There should be a space between the top of the hose and bottom of the knee. You should also check that any seams on the hose are straight.

Brogues

Tying ghillie brogues can seem daunting but with practice gets easier. Start by tying the laces into a simple granny knot (single knot). Take the two ends of the lace and twist them around each other about 5 or 6 times. When pulled tight this gives a solid line up from the first knot. Pass both ends of the lace around the leg a few times and tie in a bow on the outside of the leg halfway between calf & ankle. The laces should form a 'T' shape with the bow on one side.

Dressing

From personal experience the easiest order to dress in is:

1. Shirt & Tie
2. Hose & Flashes
3. Shoes
4. Kilt
5. Belt & Buckle
6. Sporran
7. Sgian Dubh & Kilt Pin
8. Jacket.

