

Hairstyles through history. 11, 18th Century, clansman and redcoat.

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Hair styles through history

A series of illustrations by Ronald Glendening which depict the changing mode of hair dressing since the days of early Egyptian culture . . .

11

18th Century

CLANSMAN AND REDCOAT

The Highland Uprising of 1745-6 is remembered for its connections with "Bonnie" Prince Charles and is established as a sadly romantic period among Scots—and others. The Clansman and Redcoat, hero and villain of the time (or vice versa, if you prefer) are illustrated in this series as they, by their costume, break the unity of the style of the eighteenth century. Even so, the soldier's coat and hat followed the general trend of men's fashion of the time. While costume elsewhere followed, or tried to, the style of the French aristocracy, urban, sophisticated and artificial, Highland Dress appeared colourful yet utilitarian.

Men's wigs were abnormally large in the early seventeen-hundreds but grew gradually smaller as the century proceeded. Female hair was either dressed close to the head, as in mid-century, or was built up on towering structures of wire and padding as in 1770-80.

The Highlander dispensed with wigs, the Clan kilt and traditional plaid and hose giving nothing to style. He was thus more mobile than the stiffly dressed Redcoat, ceremonially wigged or with well-curled hair appearing from his tricorne.

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