

Medieval Dress – The Merchant

A merchant would wear a bulky piece of clothing called a surcoat that ended just above his knees. It would be a bright, "rich" colour and might have a trim of fox fur. A belt would be worn at the waist with a purse attached. Sleeves on the surcoat were called "bagpipe" and would be very baggy and loose but tight at the wrist. Stockings or tights would be worn to keep the legs warm. A merchant's shoes may be very long and pointed. Sometimes the shoes worn by important men were so long, that the tips of them had to be fastened to the knee with jeweled chains.

