

Medieval Dress – The Serf

Serfs or peasants work long, hard days in the fields, This means that they must dress for this kind of work and do not wear fancy clothing at all.

A male peasant wears a rough covering called a tunic. It would be made of thick fabric to keep him warm. He would also have a cloak over the tunic but it would not be lined with fur like the lord or merchant would wear, but would be covered with sheepskin. Long strips of cloth would be worn around the legs. Serfs could not afford leather shoes so they wore cloth ones. If it was muddy in the fields, they would work barefoot. In the winter they would wear heavy clumsy shoes made of wood called clogs.

A female peasant would also wear a tunic made out of rough material. It would be heavy and have no shape. To keep



the front of her skirt from dragging in the mud in the field, she would tuck it into the belt that she would wear around her waist.