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PRESERVE. EDUCATE. INSPIRE.

The Common Civil War Soldier

The American Battlefield Trust Traveling Trunk Program

Lesson #1

Military Issued Mississippi
Rifle & Bayonet

Military Issued
Hardee Hat

Military Issued Knapsack
& Blanket Roll

Military Issued Frock Coat

Military Issued
Haversack

Military Issued Canteen

Military Issued
Brogans/Booties



Figure 1

Union Jacket-AKA Sack Coat



Military issued jacket also commonly known as a sack coat. Worn by enlisted men and non-commissioned officers, the jacket is unlined and made of wool. The jacket is adorned with four brass buttons.



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Confederate Jacket



Confederate jean wool jacket. This garment would be used by enlisted men and non-commissioned officers, the jacket is unlined, and is adorned with four brass buttons. Many times the buttons were Union buttons sewn onto the Confederate uniform.



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Jacket's Continued

Left-

A well worn and lined version of the sack coat. The soldier's coats would look this way after a year or two at war.



Right-

A Confederate style frock coat. This coat normally consisted of nine buttons and a split tail like a tuxedo in the rear. This version is kid sized and not to scale.



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Union & Confederate Headgear

Left: Union Forge Cap

The most common types of hats worn by Union and Confederate soldiers was either a kepi or forage cap. The forage cap, also known as a bummer, allowed soldiers to remove their hat and place eggs, hardtack and other items into the top part of the hat as they foraged for food on the march.



Union Forge Cap

Confederate Kepi

Right: Confederate Kepi

Designed by the French Army, the kepi is a more compact version of the forge cap. While used more by officers, the hat was used by enlisted men in the North and South. Note the similarity to the modern baseball cap



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Headgear Continued

Top Left:
Union officer kepi.



Bottom Left:
Union Hardee Hat-
This hat was rarely used
in battle during the war.
The tall wide brimmed
hat included a hat cord,
plume, French infantry
horn and a Jeff Davis
style hat pin.



Top Right:
A fez used by troops known
as zouaves. Zouave units
fought for the North and the
South.

Bottom Right:
Confederate officer kepi.
Notice the gold Austrian
braiding that denotes
he is an officer.



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Shoes-Known at the time as Brogans



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Brogans Continued



Brogans were worn by men in both the North and the South, and officers and enlisted men alike.

The shoes were fully made of leather and sometimes included what looks to be a horseshoe on the heel. This is known as a heel plate, it helps to reduce wear on the heel and it also helps a soldier to dig into the ground with their heels when going up hill.

The shoes were stiff and uncomfortable. Producers also did not make the shoes to fit the left or right foot. These shoes were straight cut.



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Haversack

The Haversack is essentially a Civil War soldiers purse. The outside of the item is treated to weatherproof the Haversack, and inside the soldiers would carry personal items such as a toothbrush, prayer book, food, etc.



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Canteen

The Canteen is an essential piece of equipment for Civil War and modern soldiers alike.

The Civil War canteen was normally made of metal, with a wool cover, linen or leather strap, and a cork to plug the mouthpiece.



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Coffee, Tin Cup & Hardtack



Image Citations

Figure 1- Private Albert H. Davis of Co. E, 9th New Hampshire Infantry Regiment in uniform, shoulder scales, and Hardee hat with Model 1841 Mississippi rifle, sword bayonet, knapsack with bedroll, canteen, and haversack. LOC

Headgear- Dirty Billy's Hats <http://www.dirtybillyshats.com/>



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