

Dressing the Part

The military uniforms of WW2 are an iconic part of the period. We're hoping to create a strong look for the game which sticks quite closely to accurate clothing. That said, we're conscious of cost and so some variation will be expected, as well as accurately reflecting the early years of the war, when uniforms were in short supply, frequently privately purchased and changing design reasonably regularly.

All characters are welcome to wear civilian clothes in any late 1930s or early 40s style at the Friday dance, should they prefer.

WAAF

GENERAL INFORMATION

For those looking for a bit more guidance, [this](#) is a great guide to the uniform, although goes in to far more detail than we really need to!

HAIR AND MAKE-UP

Make-up should be on the more simple, natural and understated side for WAAFs on duty. A good guide can be found [here](#). More hair and make-up [tutorials](#). Not wearing make-up is also fine. Hair should be tied back in a bun, plait or ponytail, or a more 'professional' 40s style. Loose hair is not allowed on shift. For the evenings feel free to draw from any of the earlier 1940s styles!

SEWING

Sewing your own uniform is an option, if you fancy it! Eva found us a perfect looking [pattern](#) and a whole [pinterest board](#) dedicated to re-making a uniform! There's also a good [sewing guide](#) for the skirt, which is very simple. Fiona found this [fabric](#), which looks great, or you can always go directly to Hainsworth, who make the real RAF uniform [fabrics](#).

HIRING

There are a few companies hiring out WAAF uniforms, if this is easier for you than buying the bits separately. [Appletree lane](#), [Angels](#), [Maddermarket theatre](#).

ESSENTIALS

These items are the basis of the WAAF costume. We've managed to find all of these items quite cheaply online and estimate a complete basic costume should cost no more than about £45 even if you need to buy everything.



Shirt	A blue/grey colour button up blouse with no pockets. Men's can be worn with the pockets removed.	Link 1 , 2 , 3
Tie	Made from woven black wool or a non-shiny synthetic. Charity shops and eBay are good for these.	Link 1 , 2
Skirt	Blue wool barathea in an A-line shape. Ideally without a pleat but with is perfectly acceptable! Note - if you're planning to buy a jacket as well, look for the 'Number 1 Heavy weight' style of skirt as this will match the fabric of the jacket. Number 2 fabric is slightly different but will look fine on its own! Surplus versions are all over eBay.	Link 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 , 5
Stockings	40 denier tights, grey.	Link 1
Shoes	Plain black lace-up shoes with a minimal heel, shiny but not patent.	Link 1 , 2



THE DANCE

All characters are welcome to wear civilian clothes in any late 1930s or early 40s style at the dance should they prefer that to their uniform. The most common thing to wear to this sort of dance (other than uniform) seems to have been a 'tea dress' or a skirt suit. There's plenty of inspiration out there for this sort of costume and thankfully loads of modern dresses in this style! Aim for an A-line skirt, puffed or padded shoulders and a nipped in high waist.



OPTIONAL

These items are optional extras. There's no need to get these, but if you're looking for ways to add to your kit, this is where we'd recommend starting.

PT kit	Blue shorts, white aertex t-shirt, black plimsolls, white socks. PT (physical training), and sports will be entirely optional out-of-game, but if you want to participate you'll need something to wear. These don't have to be spot on at all! Anything vaguely correct will be fine.	Shorts example , Shirt example , plimsolls
Hat	WAAF kind, relevant to rank.	Other ranks , or cheaper here , Officers
Jacket	Reproduction or altered RAF jacket. Dont worry too much about altering a modern men's jacket to look 1940s, but if you want there's a (somewhat sexist, sorry) guide here .	Link 1 , 2 , Jacket and skirt set , Modern RAF jacket
Handbag	Usually a gas mask bag, a black leather bag in 40s style could also be used.	Link 1
Helmet	Standard WW2 style but needs to be RAF grey, Link 1 (I have a very good heavy plastic helmet which was very cheap but I can't find them online, I'll keep my eyes out though!) Some more information on helmets here	
Great coat	Full length, double breasted RAF wool coat - it's unlikely to be cold enough to need (or want) one of these, but if you have one by all means bring it! Easy to find on eBay.	
Pyjamas	Blue and white striped pyjamas - shirt and trousers style (anything that fits this description should be fine as you'll be wearing them in the dark mostly!)	Example

