

Schuyler's Company NY Provincials 1759 FABRICS for REENACTING

ALL fabric must be 100% natural fiber to reduce fire danger!

Linen - a cloth made from the flax plant. One of the most common fabrics used in the 18th century, it was grown by farmers. When burn tested it smells like burned paper and has a powdery, gray ash. It can be its natural tan color, white or dyed. It can be striped or checked but checks are hard to find.



Good weights for shirts, shifts, waistcoats, shortgowns, aprons,

Caps



*Good for frocks,
Breeches*

*hemp canvas-
breeches, haversacks*

*aprons, neck-
clothes, waistcoats*

100% - no cotton-polyester blends! Cotton burns similarly to linen.
 Imported cottons were for sale at merchants in *N.Y.C.*, Albany and
 Schenectady. The Albany Institute has an original length with
 the tax stamp on it. Start with checks and stripes, finding period
 looking prints can be tricky.



A check like this in blue
 or black for Schuyler's shirts



cotton duck, but looks
 like homespun linen



repro 18c
 cotton



Cotton-Linen blend - looks like linen, but less expensive.
 Sometimes found at JoAnn Fabrics. Good for shirts, shifts,
 caps, aprons, waistcoats, linings, dresses, etc.



Ticking - a tough woven cotton now, sometimes used for
 breeches then. Good for boys breeches because it's tough.



See Florence Montgomery's Textiles in America 1650-1870 and Sally Queen's
Textiles for Colonial Clothing for more info.

Wool - the other most common 18th century fabric, it comes from sheep. When burn tested, it can be self-extinguishing, smells like hair or feathers burning. A lot of 100% wool has a small amount of nylon in it. This is ok, it's still fire retardant. In the 18th century wool had a variety of names depending on the weave.



Good weight for
waistcoats, breeches



coat weight



drab -
Schuyler's
coat wool



Linsey - Woolsey - a common home woven fabric in the 18th cen.

"A coarse cloth made of linen warp and woollen weft" Montgomery (179) Now hard to find, obtainable from hand weavers and online.



Cotton - a good inexpensive way to start is with cotton. Get