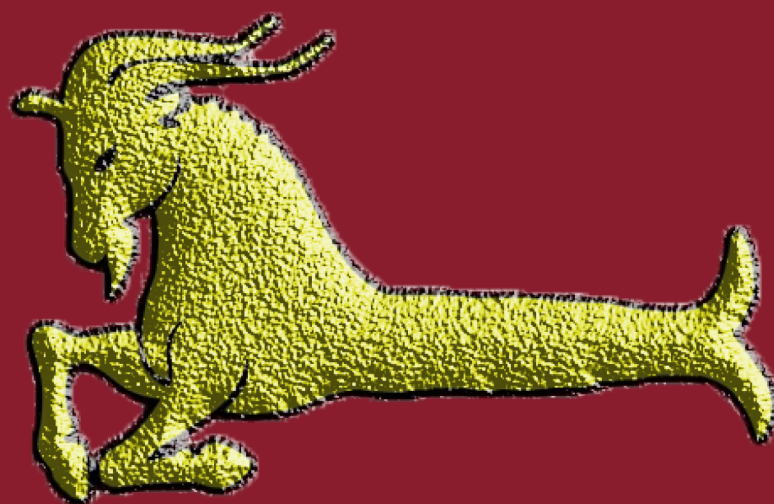


LEGIO XIII GEMINA
MARTIA VICTRIX



LEGIONARY'S
HANDBOOK

Table of Contents

Our Photographers.....	002
Medieval Colours.....	006
Acknowledgements.....	008
Legio XIII Kit Requirements.....	012
A Guide for Soft Kit.....	014
A Guide for Cold Weather Kit.....	044
The Roman Scutum.....	060
The Roman Helmet.....	068
The Roman Cuirass.....	112
The Subarmalis.....	128
Roman Armaments.....	130
Roman Mess Gear.....	154
Roman Camping Gear.....	162
Approved Vendor List.....	178

Our Photographers



R. David Burns is the mastermind behind much of the gorgeous professional photography that you see in this handbook. His biography begins here:

Hi, I am David Burns. I am an American Civil War re-enactor turned photographer based out of Cincinnati, Ohio but living in a small town just east of the city. My passion for history has molded into my love of photography. I do my best to keep our history alive by visiting re-enactments across the country as often as time will allow.

History is very important to me because not only does it remind me where I came from but also what my ancestors and so many others did to help me get where I am today. I also enjoy doing sporting events, portrait work, cosplay, film themed events, and anything else I can point my lens at. I am self-taught with a sincere passion for photography, always looking for that next shot. If you have any photography needs, I will bring all my passion to get it done.



Contact Information:

Website:

<https://rdavidburnsphotography.smugmug.com/>

Email:

historicalproduction@yahoo.com

Phone:

(513) 284-9910



Our Photographers



Christian Davis is a recent addition to the Legio XIIIIII photography team. His specialties include still shots, videography, and drone shots, and his biography starts here:

Hey my name is Chris and I'm the owner of Digital Glass. I am a veteran with over 5 years in the service as a network engineer. I'm currently transitioning from military life to follow my passion in photography and filmmaking. I created Digital Glass as my testament of devotion in the craft and I aim to continue growing my skills and business.

I aim to capture the beauty in all of life's moments and that's why I chose it as the motto for Digital Glass. If you haven't yet, please check out the blog for updates on events related to Digital Glass. passion to get it done.



Contact Information:

Website:

<https://www.rensdigitalglass.com>

Email:

renshidigitalglass@gmail.com

Phone:

(754) 275-9082



Medieval Colours



Kat from Medieval Colours is another friend of the legion, responsible for the natural color guide in our soft kit section. The biography from her website starts here:

We named our shop Medieval Colours, because our main inspiration is heritage and history – especially Medieval history. We receive colours from plants traditionally used for dyeing for centuries, some of them we pick by hand in meadows and forests, other ones we order from like-minded people (those lucky ones with herbal garden).

Tansy, madder, woad, weld, gallnuts...and dozens of other plants, everyone of them has its own tale. Would you like to have knitted gloves in the very same colour as a Viking Jarl tunic? Or maybe make a scarf from yarn dyed in a plant which was used by monks in Middle Ages to make ink?

These ones and many more, you will find in our shop.



Contact Information:

Website:

<https://medieval-colours.co.uk>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/MedievalColours/>

Email:

info@medieval-colours.co.uk



Acknowledgements:

A special thank you to all of the members of Legio XIII Gemina, for your efforts in helping to build this incredible group and being the lifeblood of its continued success!!

Credits:

- Matthew DiGirolamo: Layout, Design, & Editing
- Nathan Haines: Research & Development.
- Matthew Colletti: Research and Development.

Additional Credit and Contribution, with Thanks, from:

-Brian Hicks, Kyle Hemstead, Michelle Hildebrandt, Patrick Leitzen, Joseph Biggie, and Jalen Ybarra.

Image Resource Disclaimer:

All images in this handbook are assumed, to the best of our knowledge and research, to be under public domain. Please contact Legio XIII if there is an image you would like credit for, or if you own an image that appears in this handbook and do not want it used.

Legion Membership Spread



*Left: Members of Legio XIII
Gathered for an event at the
Ravensburg Viking Long
Fortress in Missouri.*

*This was for an event called
Ravensburg: Germania, in
August of 2019, the first event
of its type in the United States
to feature Roman Era German
Tribesmen.*

Legion Mission Statement

Who are we?

We are an international volunteer organization composed of reenactors across the World, dedicated to reconstruction of ancient Roman life with a focus on the Roman Legions in Britain during the mid to late First Century AD. We coordinate through Facebook.

Webpage:

<https://www.legxiii.com>

Contact us at email:

info@legxiii.com

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/legioxiii/>

Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/690371871062986/>

What do we do?

We work to bring the lifestyle of ancient Rome, during the mid to late First Century AD, into the modern world through research, craftsmanship, discussion, and collaboration with other like-minded living historians, reenactment groups, and vendors.

Our Core Objectives:

- To reconstruct historically accurate Roman Legionary clothing, arms, and armor, to the era of the mid to late First Century AD.
- To build a strong contingent of members in the Midwest, with supporting smaller groups across the country and beyond.
- To foster a spirit of brotherhood and learning amongst members of the legion.
- To educate the public to the practices of ancient Rome and her Legions, without the obscuring filters of Hollywood and Pop Culture.
- To create support for established events by other Roman reenactment legions, with a focus on the Following High Priority Events:
 - Clash of Iron in Lafe, Arkansas.
 - Ravensburg Germania in La Belle, Missouri.
 - Days of Knights in Lancaster, Ohio.
- To bring together already established Roman reenactment legions in a spirit of cooperation and enthusiasm, so that future events will be stronger, better attended, and more widely received.

Legion Policies and Expectations

Membership Dues:

Our membership dues are “Buy your kit and show up to our events.” We would rather see you take that money and spend it on gear and transportation to events, so Legio XIII Gemina does not have membership dues or any other related fees at this time.

Equipment Standards:

The Legionary Handbook is law. It is the responsibility of every member to download and read the handbook BEFORE purchasing something. All items that exist outside the Handbook are not allowed for purchase. If a legion member encounters a vendor or an item that they feel strongly meets our equipment standards and should be in the guides, please contact a member of command.

Moneyed Endeavors:

You will see many people within the Legion using its resources as an avenue to advertise crafting trades, or selling gear like tee shirts and hoodies. You keep 100% of the money you make selling items & services within our group, both online and at events. There are craftspeople within the group that may also be willing to trade, and exploration of that option is encouraged. Please post responsibly and do not spam Legion channels online. We reserve the right to remove posts we deem excessive.

Behavioral Standards:

Legio XIII Gemina accepts people of all backgrounds into its ranks and does not discriminate on race, gender, or religion. To that end, discussion of modern politics is not allowed in our Facebook group and all related group chats. If you choose to engage in modern topics at events, please keep it civil and appropriate (I.E. don't force it). If you choose to engage in controversial discussions online outside of Legion channels, especially if you represent us on any personal media, please engage responsibly.

If you see something you do not like on a fellow member's personal account, please reach out to them privately and/or unfollow them. If you are made to feel threatened or unsafe by a fellow member, please reach out to a member of Command immediately. We reserve the right to remove any and all individuals that we deem to be not following these expectations faithfully.

Please do not post memes to the Facebook Group. If you want to submit one, message command and they can post it on the public facing page, once vetted and deemed appropriate and relevant to our objectives.

Insurance:

We do not have insurance and, by becoming a member of this group, as defined as being a member of our Facebook Group, you accept liability for any injuries or illness that may or may not occur due to sparring, being out in the wilderness, and/or acclimating to wearing armor. Safety is our highest priority and we take all necessary measures to ensure everyone has a safe and fun experience. If you have allergies or pre-existing conditions that may put you at risk at one of our events, please let a member of Legion Command know by messaging us through our Facebook page, <http://facebook.com/legioxiii>.

Legio XIII Kit Requirements:

Minimum kit requirements for participation in all events:

- Linen or wool tunic x1
- Tunic belt or sash x1
- Pair of caligae x1

NOTE:

-A tunic, a tunic belt/sash, and a pair of caligae are enough to get you looking “period everyday common” for all Legio XIII events. However, it is not enough to camp out with us except in extremely favorable weather. If your kit is at this level, bring a sleeping bag and stash it during the day. Full immersion events may restrict this.

Required soft kit items are as follows:

- Tunic x1 (Linen)
- Tunic x1 (Wool)
- Tunic Belt or Sash x1
- Balteus or Cingulum x1
- Pair of Caligae or Calcei x1
- Sagum or Paenula x1 (one of each preferred)

Optional, but strongly recommended, soft kit items are as follows:

- Pair of naalbinding/Wool socks x1 (more than one pair recommended)
- Braccae x1
- Subucula x1 (Linen Under-Tunic)
- Pair of legwraps x1
- Naalbinding/Wool Cap x1
- Wool Mittens x1
- Subigaculum x1 (underwear)
- Fascia Ventralis x1
- Jewelry x1

Required hard kit items are as follows:

- Helmet x1
- Lorica Hamata or Lorica Segmentata x1 (Hamata recommended for new / inexperienced members)
- Gladius x1
- Pilum x1
- Pugio x1 (required but is not priority)
- Augustan, Rectangular, or Oval Shield x1
- Subarmalis x1 (considered hard kit because of its role in padding armor)

Required mess/camping items are as follows:

- Wooden bowl x1 (x2-x3 recommended)
- Wood or metal spoon x1 (x2-x3 recommended)
- Wooden plate x1 (x2-x3 recommended)
- Cup x1
- Small utility knife x1
- Leather or ceramic canteen x1
- Leather, wool, linen, hemp or jute carrying bags for rations x1 (x2-x3 recommended)

Optional, but recommended, camping items are as follows:

- Wooden Box x1
- Extra wool blankets (quantity at user discretion)
- Patera x1
- Oil Canteen x1
- Furca Pole x1
- Camp Box x1

Further purely optional camping items are as follows:

- Locus Bag x1
- Dolabra x1
- Sudes x1
- Training Gladius x1

A Guide for Soft Kit



What is Soft Kit?

Soft Kit comprises the basic clothing of the Roman Legionary, plus a few extras. Existing members have a degree of freedom to choose color and patterns for their soft kit, but we prefer that brand new members stick to undyed or madder red materials. All fabric colors must at least mimic historic pigments if they themselves are not already naturally dyed. A natural color guide is included on the next few pages to show what dyes are acceptable. Avoid very bright reds, “tyrian” purple, and solid black please.

Clavii

Military tunics for non-command members may not have clavii, which are colored stripes on some tunicae, as seen on the mosaic on Page 6 and among the excavated originals. They are more common for depictions of civilians and officers, hence this rule.



Natural Color Guide:

The following images you are about to see are a part of an online guide for making natural dyes (sourced from Medieval Colours: <https://medieval-colours.co.uk>). Legio XIII allows modern dyed fabrics at all events and encampments as long as they mimic a color from this guide. Conversely, we also strongly encourage working and experimenting with natural dye combinations, to give individual members the power to color their own fabrics as they desire.

Legion Clothing Colors

The most common fabrics for legionaries were undyed, due to expense and frequency of wear for legionary tunics. The most common color after undyed would have been red, based on combinations of madder and other inexpensive dyeing materials at the time. Earth tones and Woad tones may also have been cheap to produce, but were more common in civilian clothing, as well as non-Roman cultures. We permit these variants, to represent Roman soldiers purchasing replacement clothing from provincial tailors, but we encourage undyed or madder red to all members just starting out.



Top: Woad, used for blue natural dyes.

Above left: Madder plant, used for red natural dyes.

Above right: Weld plant, used for yellow/green natural dyes.



Images sourced from *Medieval Colours*:
<https://medieval-colours.co.uk>

Madder Tones:

“There are two other plants also, which are but little known to any but the herd of the sordid and avaricious, and this because of the large profits that are derived from them. The first of these is madder, the employment of which is necessary in dyeing wool and leather. The madder of Italy is the most esteemed, and that more particularly which is grown in the suburbs of the City; nearly all our provinces, too, produce it in great abundance. It grows spontaneously, but is capable of reproduction by sowing, much after the same manner as the fitch. The stem, however, is prickly, and articulated, with five leaves arranged round each joint: the seed is red. Its medicinal properties we shall have occasion to mention in the appropriate place.”

Pliny The Elder; Book XIX; The Nature and Cultivation of Flax, and an Account of Various Garden Plants; Chapter 17



Images sourced from *Medieval Colours*: <https://medieval-colours.co.uk>

Earth Tones:

“We have now said enough on the subject of the odoriferous flowers; in relation to which, luxury not only glories in having vanquished Nature in the composition of unguents, but has even gone so far as to challenge, in her fabrics, those flowers which are more particularly recommended by the beauty of their tints. I remark that the following are the three principal colours; the red, that of the kermes for instance, which, beginning in the tints of the rose, reflects, when viewed sideways and held up to the light, the shades that are found in the Tyrian purple, and the colours of the dibapha and Laconian cloths: the amethystine colour, which is borrowed from the violet, and to which, bordering as it does on the purple, we have given the name of “ianthinum”—it must, however, be remembered, that we here give a general name to a colour which is subdivided into numerous tints—and a third, properly known as the “conchyliated” colour, but which comprehends a variety of shades, such, for instance, as the tints of the heliotropium, and others of a deeper colour, the hues of the mallow, inclining to a full purple, and the colours of the late violet; this last being the most vivid, in fact, of all the conchyliated tints. The rival colours being now set side by side, Nature and luxury may enter the lists, to vie for the mastery.

I find it stated that, in the most ancient times, yellow was held in the highest esteem, but was reserved exclusively for the nuptial veils of females; for which reason it is perhaps that we do not find it included among the principal colours, those being used in common by males and females: indeed, it is the circumstance of their being used by both sexes in common that gives them their rank as principal colours.”

Pliny The Elder; Book XXI; An Account of Flowers, and Those Used for Chaplets More Particularly; Chapter 22



Images sourced from *Medieval Colours*:
<https://medieval-colours.co.uk>

Woads and Others:

“Of the inlanders [of Britain] most do not sow corn, but live on milk and flesh and clothe themselves in skins. All the Britons, indeed, dye themselves with woad [vitrum], which produces a blue color, and makes their appearance in battle more terrible.”

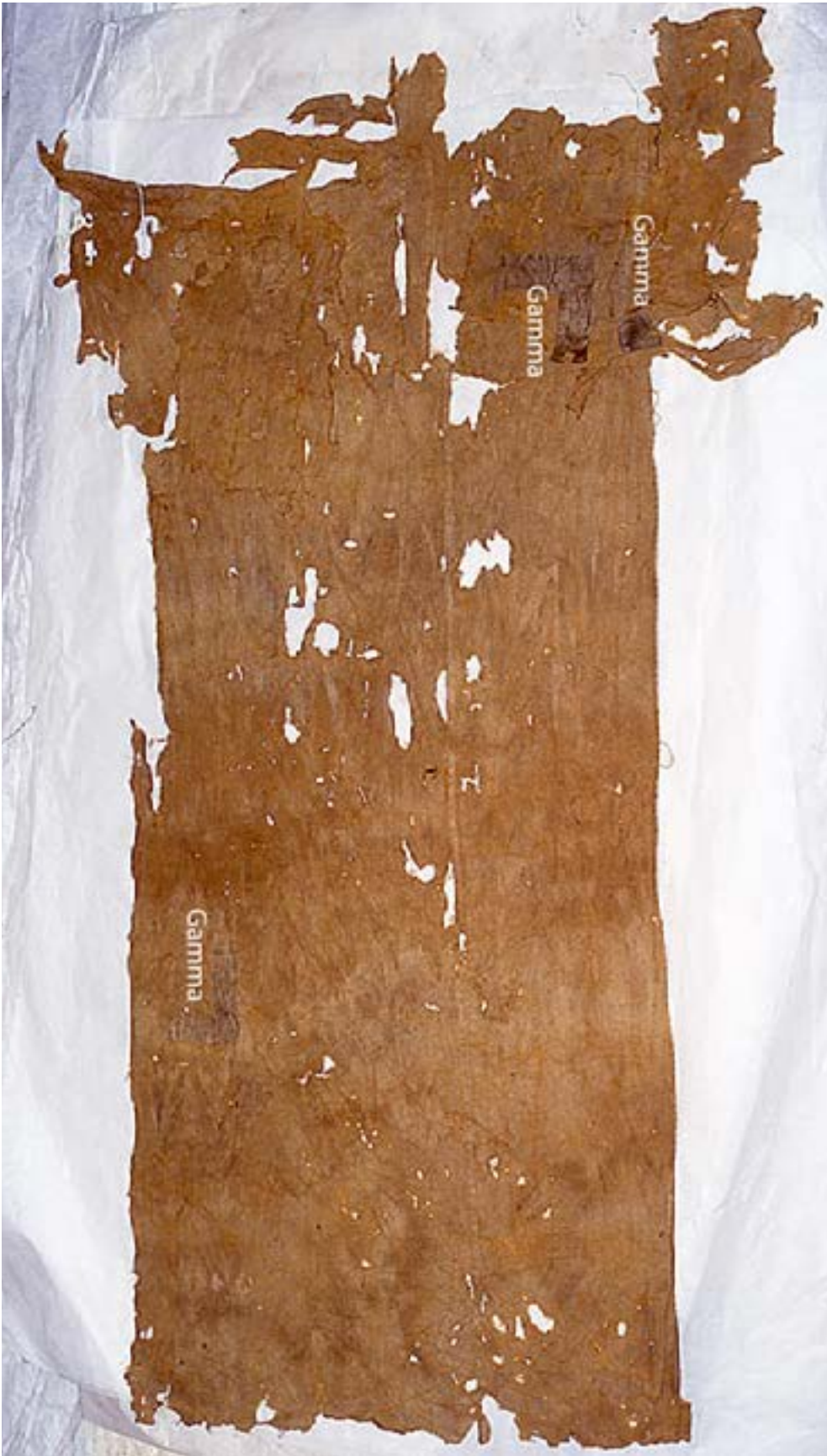
Gaius Julius Caesar; De Bello Gallico; Book V, Verse 14

Tunics (Linen, Wool, and Under-Tunics):

The tunic was the most common garment, worn by citizens and non-citizens alike, it was constructed of linen or wool of various colors. Though white seems to be the predominate color. The majority of tunics were constructed of two square or rectangular pieces, back and front, sewed together at the sides and on the shoulders. Openings were left for the arms and the head. The neck and lower edge of the tunic were selvages, eliminating the need for a hem. Evidence of a single large piece of fabric folded in half, sewed down the side seams, with a hole cut and hemmed in place for the head also exist. In length it normally reached from the shoulders to the calf of the wearer, who could shorten it by pulling it up through a belt; in normal wear it usually covered the knees and was slightly shorter in the back. Soldiers, slaves and manual workers generally had tunics pulled up to a little above the knee, so as not to interfere with their occupational duties. Historical reference comes from a papyrus recovered in Egypt dating from around 138 AD. The document describes a tunic weighing 3.5 pounds, being 61 inches in length and 55 inches in width. Also stating the garment should be made “from soft white wool without dirt.”



Original Finds of Roman Tunics:







Caligae

The Caligae (singular caliga) are probably the most recognized form of Roman footwear, no other shoe in history is as symbolic of the expansion of an empire. It has been stated that thousands of men marching on a paved road in hobnailed caligae would have provided an audible reminder of the power of Rome.

Caligae are a heavy-duty, thick-soled open work boot, with hobnailed soles. Typical construction consisted of three layers of cow or ox leather prepared by a vegetable-tanning process that took at least two years to complete. The outer and inner sole, between which is a middle layer that forms the upper section of the boot. The one piece upper consists of a lattice of comparatively narrow straps that enclose the foot up to above the ankles and close with a leather lace. The latticed upper provided excellent ventilation, reducing the possibility of sweaty feet and blisters. As well as being free draining, and faster to dry once wet. In addition the flexible lacing scheme allowed adjustment to the wearer's feet, which minimized pressure points at the ankle and toes, helping to eliminate abrasions. The Caligae were also known to have a double heel seam often covered by additional protective strip of leather. Hobnails were hammered into the hard leather outer soles in various patterns to provide traction and extend the longevity of boot by preventing wear of the sole.

Apart from a few minor variations the caligae were very standardized, suggesting that patterns may have been issued to a unit shoemaker. There is little evidence to support constant repair, hinting that it was easier to just replace caligae. A document from Egypt records the issuing of three pair per year, giving a rough idea of service time. These boots were issued to Roman legionary soldiers and auxiliaries of all ranks throughout the Roman Republic and Empire.



Original Finds of Roman Caligae:





Das Schuhwerk römischer Soldaten bestand aus
Riemensandalen (caligae). Ihre Ledersohlen sind mit
zahlreichen Nägeln beschlagen, um die Fußsohlen
bei langen Märschen zu schützen.

Sandaler mit genagelten Sohlen
Münz, römisch
Leber, Eisen + sandelrömisches Museum Bonn



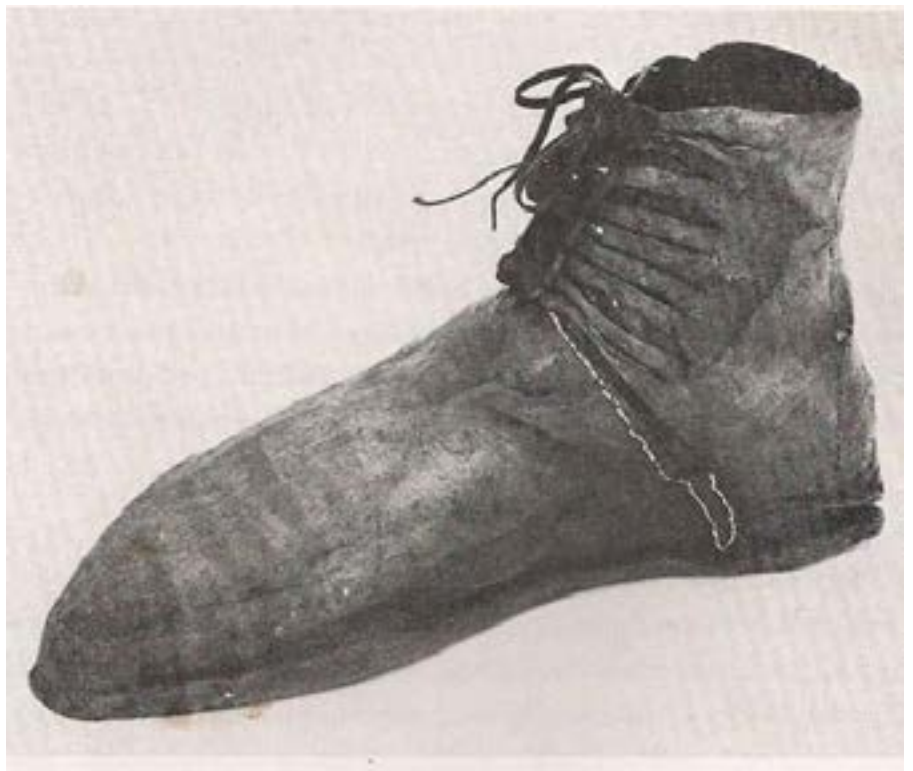
Calcei

The Calcei was a mid-weight, outdoor walking “enclosed-boot,” worn in ancient Rome. The Calcei were a distinctive part of Roman civilian wear, and were adopted into military use by some personnel. It featured a flat-sole, usually hobnailed for traction and support of the foot. The upper entirely covered the foot and ankle, up to the lower shin. Construction of the boot seems to have consisted of the upper; an inner, middle and outer sole. The upper is almost always cut from one piece of leather. Calcei were of various colors, red being for Senatorial use, and shades of brown being dominant for the commoner. The lacing line that closes the upper runs upwards and towards the inside of the foot, secured with crossed laces.

Though it is predominantly depicted as being worn by civilians and Praetorians (shown below), legionaries increasingly utilized them at the end of the first century, to a point that they were the norm by the mid second century. Therefore, they are permitted for use in all Legion events, and are particularly recommended for cold weather.



Original Finds of Roman Calcei:







Tunic Belt or Sash:

The tunic belt was used to hitch the tunic up above the knees to allow better freedom of movement. The tunic above the knees seems to be a soldierly aspect alone, as sculptural evidence almost always depicts civilians with the tunic below the knee. It was in fact a minor punishment for a soldier to have to stand in camp with his tunic unbelted. There is little surviving evidence of these simple belts. It is therefore a guess as to their construction. Linen, woven and leather are all options, with the means of securing ranging from a knot to a simple loop style buckle.



Original Finds of Buckles Usable For Tunic Belts:



Fascia Ventralis

The fascia ventralis is a cloth waist sash that appears to have been worn for “dress uniform” occasions and was worn to protect the tunic from the belt plates and metal parts of the balteus. A historical document found at Vindolanda describes the issuing of thread to repair a ventralis torn by a balteus. It has also been suggested by some historians that it also served as a “wallet”, into which could be hidden coins and other small items. The cloth would be either heavy linen or wool. The color of the ventralis remains a topic of debate, it has been suggested that it may have been a specific color for each legion or cohort, though this remains unproven.



Original Finds of Materials Usable The Fascia Ventralis:



Balteus or Cingulum

The balteus is the traditional Roman soldier's military belt. It was the mark of a soldier, not only that, it was a status symbol of being a soldier. Worn at all times, even off duty, only soldiers were allowed, by law, to wear this unique belt. At the beginning of the 1st century the belts were thin (approx 1 ¼ to 1 1/2in) and were commonly worn in pairs, with the apron and pugio on one belt and the gladius on the other. (This was a holdover from the Late Republic) As the century continued the gladius was increasingly carried on a baldric and the belt widened to up to 2/ 2 ¼ inch. The archaeological evidence suggests that many of these belts were intricately elaborate.

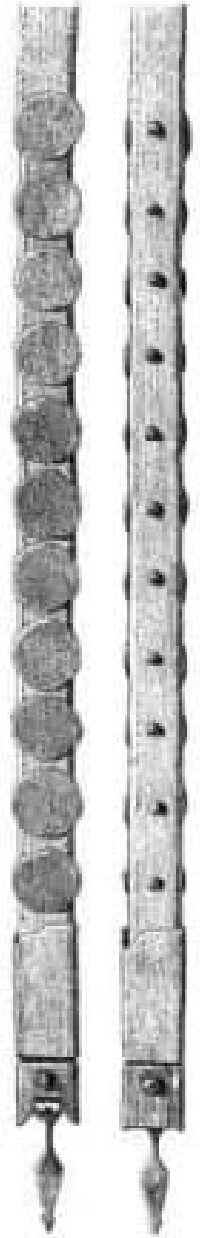
The decoration of each plate could be quite ornate. They featured embossed and engraved designs, sometimes plated with tin, and in rare cases coated in silver foil. During the 1st and the 2nd centuries AD the belt supported several vertical strips of metal-studded leather. Many believe that the apron was more of a status symbol and the unique sound that the apron terminals make when they clank together with movement, along with the distinct sound of caligae hobnails would have unmistakably labeled the owner as a soldier to civilians. When worn over the hamata, the belt helped to take some of the weight off the soldier's shoulders. It may have represented rank and awards, though it is more likely that this apron's most important purpose was to portray a man's social status as a soldier. One theory is that since Roman soldiers did not have a lot to spend their pay on, they spent it on making their gear fancier. There is evidence that the balteus was used as collateral in both gambling and pawn.

There are very few "Off the Shelf" baltei that are acceptable, and those that are would benefit from some improvement. It is recommended that you make your own with parts from our preferred vendors or have one custom made. Not every belt was ornamented. If you prefer a plain balteus with or without apron that is acceptable. Also, we allow a "Work in Progress" balteus which is partially plated/studded which you can add to as finances allow.



Original Finds of Balteus Parts:







Ceramic or Leather Canteen

Water-skins and water bottles are receptacles used to hold water. Normally made of a sheep or cow bladder, they retain water naturally and therefore are very useful for transporting of water. Though they may have been used over 5000 years ago by tribal peoples, the first pictures of them are from ancient Assyrians, who used the bladders as floats in 3000 B.C. Both were also used by large ancient empires such as Rome before the advent of the canteen.

The canteen is a drinking water bottle designed to be used by personnel in the field. It is usually fitted with a shoulder strap or means for carrying. Canteens have historically been covered with cloth or netting to protect the bottle and insulate the contents. If the covering is soaked with water, evaporative cooling can help keep the contents of the bottle cool. Primitive canteens were sometimes ceramic, leather or made from hollowed-out gourds, such as a calabash.

*** NO METAL CANTEENS ***



Canteen: Original Finds:



Optional: Roman Jewelry

Ancient Roman jewelry was characterized by an interest in colored gemstones and glass, contrasting with Greek predecessors, which focused primarily on the production of high-quality metalwork by practiced artisans. Various types of jewelry were worn by different genders and social classes in Rome, and were used both for aesthetic purposes and to communicate social messages of status and wealth.

While much emphasis is placed on fine gold and silver pieces of antiquated jewelry, many pieces worn by lower social classes in Rome would have been made out of bronze or other less expensive metals. Gold and silver pieces would have been worn by the wealthy. Unlike ancient Greek jewelers, Roman manufacturers would have dealt primarily with mass-produced pieces created using molds and casting techniques. This allowed more people to afford such accessories.

Roman aesthetic values led to the increased use of precious and semi-precious gemstones as well as colored glass in jewelry. Ostentatious and creative use of color was valued over fine metalwork. Glass makers were supposedly so skilled that they could fool the public into thinking that glass beads and ornaments were actually gemstones. When genuine gems were utilized, the stones preferred by Roman women were amethyst, emerald, and pearl.

The focus on showiness and imitation of fine materials demonstrates the fact that Romans were highly conscious of how they presented themselves in public. While living, Roman men and women frequently used ornamentation of their houses and bodies to demonstrate wealth, power, influence, and knowledge. As with many societies, ancient Roman accessorizing varied along boundaries of gender and age, in addition to social standing. Roman women collected and wore more jewelry than men. Women usually had pierced ears, in which they would wear one set of earrings. Additionally, they would adorn themselves with necklaces, bracelets, rings, and fibula. One choker-style necklace, two bracelets, and multiple rings would be worn at once. Jewelry was particularly important to women because it was considered to be their own property, which could be kept independently of their husband's wealth and used as the women saw fit. They had the right to buy, sell, bequeath, or barter their own jewelry.

Typically Roman men wore less jewelry than their female counterparts. Finger rings, coin necklaces and fibulae were the most common forms of jewelry worn by men, but they would also sometimes wear pendants. Roman men, unlike Greek men, wore multiple rings at once. Some Roman children's jewelry served special purposes, especially in the form of amulets. These were worn draped around the neck, and had specialized purposes to protect the children from illness and misfortune. For example, a phallic fascinus was commonly placed on or near a young boy to ward off the evil forces.

Collections of jewelry represented great wealth and power to the Roman owners. The use of this jewelry was not limited to simply wearing it, but also extended to spiritual purposes. Hoards of gold, silver, and bronze jewelry have been found at Greek and Roman temples, providing evidence that worshipers would have offered some of their jewelry to the god or goddess of the temple, much as they would have offered other objects.



Optional: Subligaculum

The subligaculum was a basic form of underwear worn by men and women in ancient Rome. The Romans seem to have adapted the perizoma, a tight-fitting pair of short pants, from the Etruscans, a pre-Roman society that inhabited the central part of present-day Italy. The Etruscans in turn appear to have adapted the garment from examples worn by ancient Greeks and Egyptians. The subligaculum is a basic loincloth, the main purpose of which is to cover the genitals. Like other loin coverings worn in ancient times, the subligaculum came in a number of forms. At its simplest, it might consist of a belt with a piece of fabric stretching from front to back between the legs. More substantial subligaculums might cover all of the buttocks and tie at the sides. Roman workers often toiled only in a subligaculum and gladiators often fought in them as well.



A Guide for Cold Weather Kit



What is Cold Weather Kit?

Cold weather kit, as the name suggests, is soft kit suitable for adapting a Legionary uniform to chillier climates. As the Romans ventured further north, into the reaches of Northern Gaul, and eventually Britain, the need for cold weather clothing increased. For Legio XIII events, most cold weather gear are secondary optional items, to supplement your existing soft kit, and are not required to be included in official Legion events. However, we strongly advise purchasing, commissioning, and/or making a full complement of the below items. Many of our events get cold at night, and they will make the difference between having to sleep in your car, and being able to camp with us, for the full experience.



Braccae

Trousers came into use by the nomadic steppe peoples sometime around the 5th century BCE. Originally though, Romans wore no trousers, considering them barbaric and effeminate. Germanic and Celtic tribesmen are often depicted on Roman artwork with braccae to identify them as barbarians. The recruitment of Celts, Germans and Gauls into the Roman army eventually led to more widespread use of braccae, especially in the colder northern climates of the Empire.

The braccae could be a shorter trouser stopping just above the knee, or could at times extend all the way down to the foot. They could also be a fairly tight fitting or very loose garment. Typical construction materials being of wool, though leather braccae have been found as well. Cord ties at the waist and belt loops have both been discovered in historical evidence. The belt loops being set low so that the top could fold over the belt. The braccae were heavily favored by cavalry troops.



Original Finds of Braccae:

Tafel II.
Die Moorleiche von Mars-Etzel, Kr. Wittmund, 1817.
II. Die Kutzhose (Bruch)



Abb. 1. Vorderseite.



Abb. 2. Hinterseite.



Udones

Roman socks, known as Udones, could be worn under boots like modern socks, but this wasn't always the case. They were heavy enough to be worn on their own, or with sandals (in which case they served as the main covering of the foot, with the sandal being equivalent to a removable sole). They were made of 100% woolen yarn and manufactured using the ancient technique of nalbinding. Examples, made of wool felt, linen and wool fabric sewn together in the shape of a boot have been found as well. Historic examples have shown that they could be ankle to mid calf in height.



Original Finds of Udones:

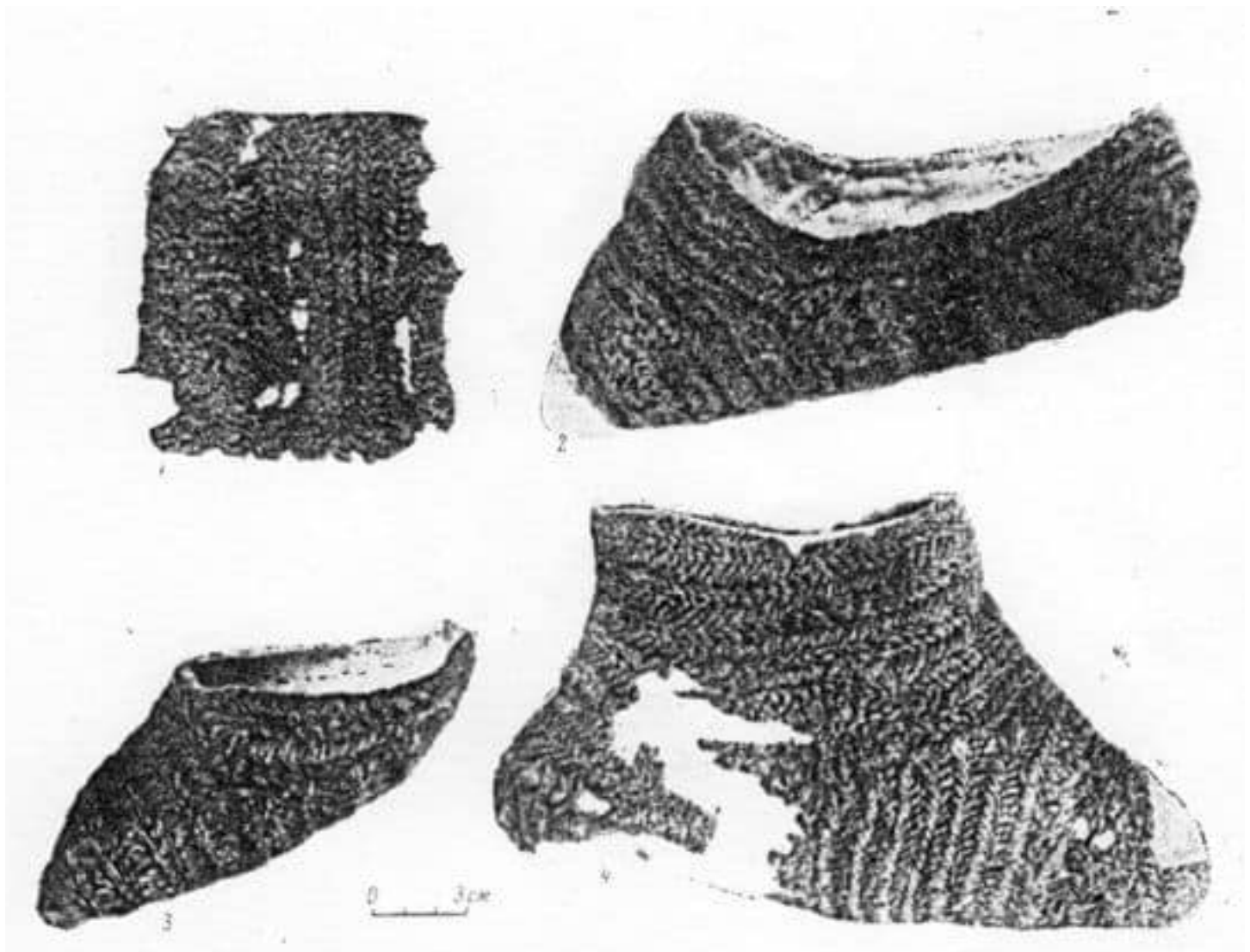


Рис. 31. Вязаные изделия

1 — обрывок вязаного изделия; 2 — туфля; 3 — детский башмачок; 4 — носок



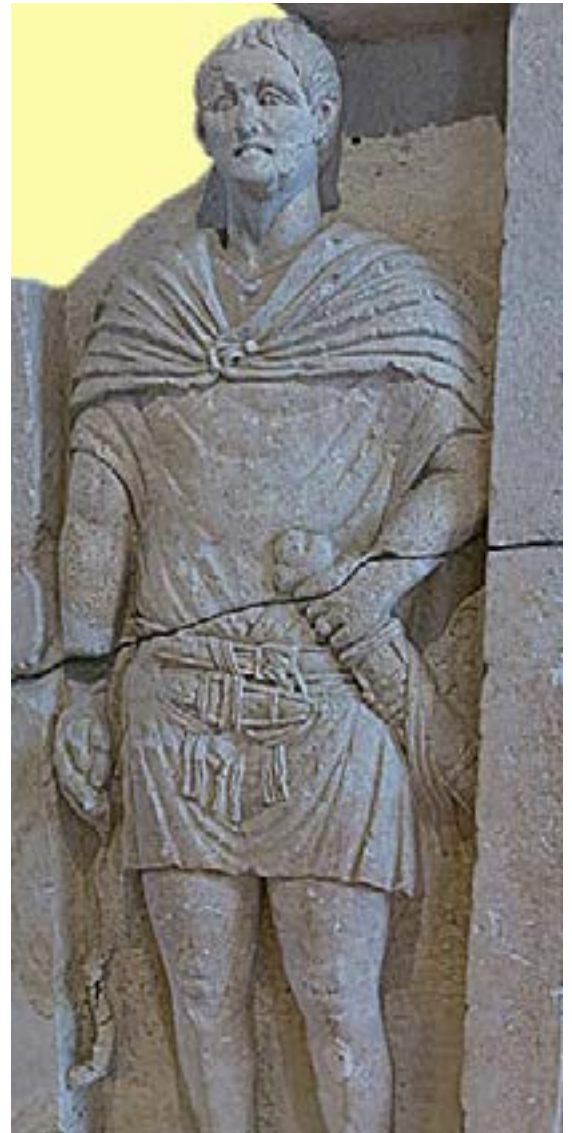




Sagum

The sagum (plural: saga) was a garment of note generally worn by members of the Roman military during both the Republic and early Empire. Regarded symbolically as a garment of war, it consisted of a simple rectangular segment of cloth, knee length, open in the front and fastened by at the right shoulder by a brooch. It was worn on top of the armor. The fabric was made of unwashed wool, saturated with lanolin (which made it water-resistant). The color of the sagum worn by common soldiers was dull red, brown, mustard yellow, and bluish-gray. The cloaks of higher ranking officers were dyed in a more expensive bright scarlet. The sagum cloaks also doubled as bedrolls for the soldiers. A shorter version of the Sagum was called the Sagutum. Below are some historical measurements.

Description	Length in inches	Width in inches
Sagum- Papyrus Document 1564	104"	69"
Sagum- Nubia	68"	41"
Sagum-Nahal Hever	106"	55"
Sagum-Thorsberg, Germany	98"	66"



Original Finds of Saga:



Paenula

The origins of the Paenula can be traced back to Etruscan times, though it may actually be older. Its basic design appears to be semi-circular and have a fastened opening down the front. In the writings of Pliny he states, “the Paenula is normally fitted with a long-pointed hood which when not in use hangs down the wearer’s back, shaped like a bindweed leaf” and “due to the wide neck opening it is often necessary to wear a scarf”. Sculptural evidence seems to indicate that it was fastened with “button and loop” or “toggle and loop” fasteners numbering four in total. Construction material was probably tightly woven wool, and in other rarer cases, possibly leather.



Original Finds of Paenulae:



Fig. 26 The same area of E.16840 as in Fig. 25. (Photo: Hov Granger-Taylor.)



Fibula

There are hundreds of different types of fibulae. They are usually divided into families that are based upon historical periods, geography, and/or cultures. Fibulae are also divided into classes that are based upon their general forms.

One of the first fibula designs of the Roman-era began in the La Tene III era, in the late 1st century BC. The Straight Wire fibula, also known as the Soldier's type or Legionnaire's type, is a very plain design. It resembles the violin bow fibula of over one thousand years earlier except that the bow has slightly more of an arch and the spring is (short) bilateral not unilateral. The Straight Wire fibula is found through the 1st century AD.

In the 1st century AD, for the first time, several fibula designs originated in Roman Britain. Perhaps the most distinctive British fibula design was the Dolphin. This was actually a series of designs including the Polden Hill type, the Langton Down type, the Colchester type and the T-Shaped type. Dolphin fibulae have a smooth arched bow that tapers from the head to end in a long point. The long bilateral spring is covered. From the top the Dolphin fibula looks like a T or the late-Roman crossbow fibula. From the side it resembles a dolphin.

Small and simple penannular brooches in bronze, iron, and, rarely, silver were common in the Roman period as a practical fastener, but were not used for high-status objects, and any decoration was normally limited to bands around the ring or other simple patterns. Often the extra thickness at the terminal, necessary to prevent the pin just falling off, is achieved simply by turning back the ends of the ring.

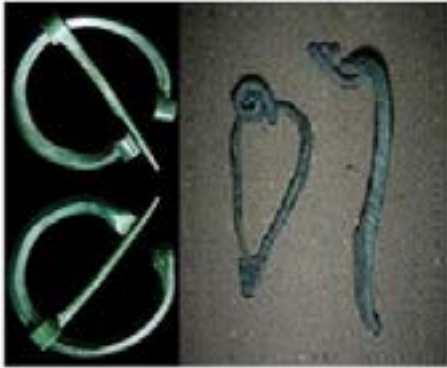
The Fantail fibula, which has a short bow that flares into a flat, wide fan-shaped foot, was common in Britain and on the European continent. The Fantail design lasted into the 2nd century AD. A common and widespread design was the Augen (or Eye) fibula, which has a longer bow and a long, flat, wide foot. It has a short bilateral spring. Many Augen fibulae are decorated with a pair of ringed dots, or eyes, on the flat foot. Augen fibulae appear to have been introduced to the Roman Empire by Germanic peoples, notably Marcomanni, serving as Roman auxiliaries.

The Aucissa fibula was another widespread design. It has a high semi-circular arched bow that extended into a short foot. The bow is flat and wide and has a rounded central ridge. The bow ends, at the head, in a hinge. The Aucissa was one of the first fibulae to use a hinge instead of a spring. The foot ends in a rounded knob. Many Aucissa fibulae have the word "AVCISSA" molded above the hinge. This is thought to be the name of a workshop.

The 1st century AD saw several other bow variations. The Wolf or Wolf's Head fibula has a flat, ribbonlike bow that widens into a square section at the head. The common design of two circles and a chevron near the rear of the bow is often interpreted as a wolf's head. The Thracian Anchor type has a wide crescent at the head giving the fibula an anchor shape. The Thracian Anchor type is also called the Illyrian and is found in Pannonia (Hungary), Dacia (Romania) and Serbia.

The late 1st century AD saw the introduction of the Kraftig Profilierte group of fibula designs. Kraftig Profilierte fibulae have a wide fan, or bell-shaped head and a long thin pointy foot. They have long bilateral hinges. There are three main variations of the Kraftig Profilierte fibula. The North Pannonian Double Knot type, found in Pannonia has two knobs, or knots, on the bow. The Single Knot type, found in the central Balkans, has a single knob. The Black Sea type, found in the steppes north of the Black Sea, has a thin body, with no flaring near the head, and two knots. Kraftig Profilierte fibulae were found in the late 1st to late 2nd centuries AD and are mostly associated with the Przeworsk proto-Gothic culture. The 1st century AD saw the widespread use of plate fibulae. Plate fibulae consist of a flat plate. Since there is little space between the fibula body and the pin (there is no arch to the body), plate fibulae could not be used to fasten much material and were therefore mainly decorative. Most plate fibulae have a hinge assembly on the back. Plate fibulae are generally associated with women's graves. The most common forms of plate fibula in the 1st century AD were round (disc), diamond, oval and lunula (crescent or moon-shaped).

Original Finds of Fibulae:



Legionnaire's fibulae.
1st – 2nd centuries AD



Romano British fibulae.
1st century AD



Kraftig Profilierte fibulae.
1st – 2nd centuries AD



Roman era plate fibulae.
1st century AD



La Tene Era fibulae.
4th – 1st centuries BC



Early Roman era bow fibulae.
1st century AD

Leg Wrappings, Bindings and Leggings

Leg wrappings, bindings and leggings appear to be an item that was adopted by the Roman Army from huntsmen and manual laborers as a means to protect the lower leg from briars, scrub and the toil of the road. Undoubtedly they also came into use to protect from the cold in the far reaches of the Empire. Leg wrappings (*lorum fasciari*) were simply rectangles of woolen cloth or felt wrapped around the lower leg and fixed with ties. The ties were located just below the knee and at the ankle. Historical documents from the first century AD list these on the pay receipts of soldiers in Egypt and Israel. Documented colors have been blue, black and yellow. Surviving examples have been found in Germany and Denmark.

Leg bindings (*fascia crurales*) are long strips wrapped around the leg in the same manner as WWI puttees. Securing them is a topic of debate as to if these were tied, tucked into themselves or secured with a pin or brooch. Remains of these have been found at Vindolanda. Leggings (*toubia* in the East, *tibia* in the West) are one of the oldest documented garments in existence. These were made of fabric and sewn into a tube, then slid over the lower leg and tied at the knee and ankle. Sculptural evidence shows these in use by Roman infantry and cavalry. Another version of these, the *pelliccea*, was made of fur.



Nalbinding Cap and Mittens

Nalbinding (also spelled naalbinding, nalebinding, nalbindning and other variants) is an ancient fabric construction technique that predates knitting and crochet by some 2000 years. The oldest nalbinding fragment, supposedly a piece of a mesh sieve made of plant fibers, is from a cave in Israel dated approximately 6500 BC. Fragments found in Denmark, date from 4200 BC and in western China, several well preserved mummies with beautiful clothes has been found, from 1000 BC. Only a few pre-early AD textiles or their pieces have survived to present day, but since the 1000's CE there are more fragments and even whole mittens and socks.



The Roman Scutum

The Legionary's First Line of Defense

Tribal skirmishes between warbands of mostly unarmored infantry dominated Iron Age warfare for much of its history, with a few notable exceptions in the Neo-Assyrians, the Achamaenid Persians, the Macedonians starting with Phillip, and eventually, the Romans. These civilizations pioneered the organization of what we call standing armies, composed of full-time professional soldiers.

Tribal civilizations like the Germans, the Gauls, and others, relied on levying able-bodied men to fight their wars, such as farmers and laborers. These men would receive some training, usually two to four weeks, on fighting in formation, how to use a shield, and how to handle a spear. Some cultures, like the Thracians and various Germanic tribes, are noted by ancient historians for not utilizing formation fighting. Instead, they fought either as skirmishers or in individual melees. Another common practice was to hire mercenaries as a supplement to a fighting force, the recruits for which often coming from tribes like the above mentioned.

For the average infantryman of the Iron Age, he likely came from a subsistence farming community, or perhaps crafted goods in a small village. Such humble backgrounds yield only enough funds for a shield and spear in wartime, along with whatever is already on hand, like knives or woodsman's axes. Therefore, though little survives of just *how* ancient warriors fought, we can say with relative certainty that martial arts in this time would revolve around the shield, as the first line of defense, with armor the luxury of those rich enough to afford it.

To that end, the Roman Legions, as not the first, but definitely the greatest professional fighting force of their age, knew the value of a good shield. The incredible wealth of the empire equipped the average soldier to the level of kings and nobility of other civilizations. While a helmet and armor turned the average infantryman into a nigh-unstoppable juggernaut, armor is a secondary defense. The scutum (latin for "shield"), was one of the most important pieces of equipment in the arsenal of the Roman soldier.

Roman shield construction techniques are exceptional, a complex lamination technique greatly magnifying the shield's durability and stopping power. Three layers of wood strips, totalling 3/8" to 1/2" thick, compose the shield's core, the outer layers arranged horizontally with an inner layer of vertically aligned strips. Thickness of the core starts between 1/4" and 1/2" at the center, with the greater thicknesses thinning out to 1/4" at the edges. Facing the shield, I.E. covering at least the front with fabric or hide, greatly increases the staying power of this construction pattern. The shields in this catalog use Dura Europos, and the Masada shield fragments, as the basis for their reconstruction. As such, facings of fabric (taking after Masada), or fabric and rawhide (taking after Dura), are offered in this catalog.

Further reinforcements, such as wood strips on the back, as well as metal accents on the front, serve to further bolster the defensive power of the shield. A shield boss on the front, of iron, steel, or brass, protects the hand while also adding additional securing points for nails and rivets. The edges can be secured with brass, hide/leather, or even wrapping the front facing over the edge. Edging first secures the boards at their respective edges, and also to further protect the core from damage, be it from the elements or enemy weapons.

To summarize, the shield served to vastly increase the effectiveness of Iron Age fighting men. A properly constructed shield with the right materials and advanced construction techniques enhanced that force multiplication even moreso. Please enjoy the rest of this catalog and reach out to me if you would like to place an order!

~Matthew A. DiGirolamo





Fayum Scutum

The shield find from Fayum, Egypt, dates to the 2nd Century BC, and is likely a Ptolemaic shield, copied off of Roman designs. Roman military fashions were known in the hellenistic world by this point in history, and the Seleucids are noted for having a division of 5,000 infantry “armed in the Roman fashion”. The Fayum scutum, if not Roman in origin, at the very least is evidence of this copycat tendency of the Successor Kingdoms in this time period.

Like the shields used by the Roman Republic at this time, the Fayum shield is made of three layers of birch strips. Its center is 1/2” or 12mm thick, and it tapers to 3/8”, or 7-8mm, at the edges. It has a wooden spindle boss, and evidence of a facing of wool felt remains on the front, wrapping over the edge. The facing would have been secured with glue, and stitched at the edge. A series of rings on the back would have held a chord for carrying the shield, when not in battle.

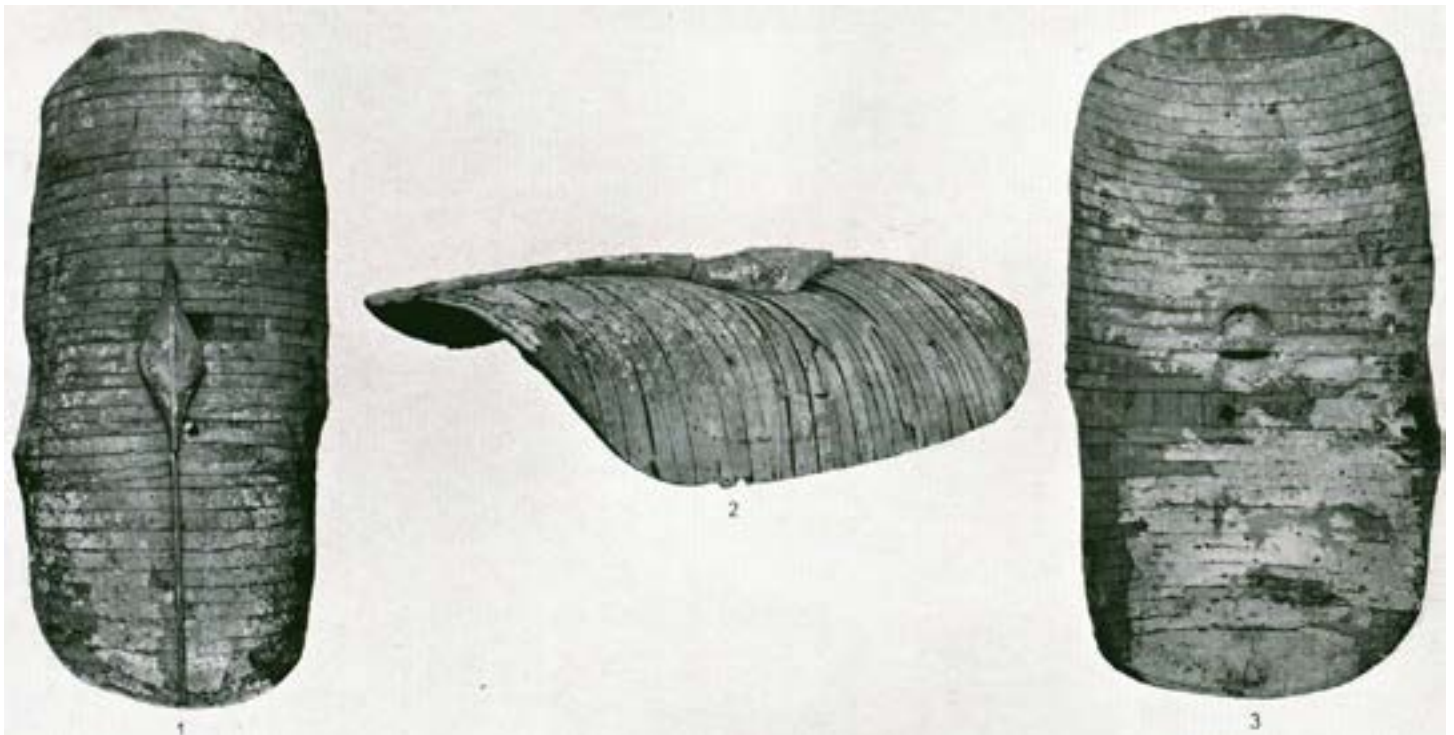
Using Fayum in Legio XIII Reconstructions:

Acceptable adaptations:

- Using birch to build your wood core.
- Using rings on the back facing as a carrying system.

NOTE:

- This shield is of a different style from Principate era shields and thus possesses fewer options to use in reconstructions.
- Wood sheet is an acceptable substitute for your wood core, but the back must be covered.





Masada Scutum Fragments

A complete shield dating to the first century has not been found, and as such, we are forced to rely on pieces and fragments for the most direct reconstructions. The Masada finds, though on the opposite end of the empire from the original Legio XIII, match the fashions of the finds from Vindolanda and Vindonissa. The drier environment of the levant has allowed for the preservation of more complete fragments, irony of that statement aside, and as such, is a good go-to for reconstructions.

This find details the most diverse range of shield types found, based on the fragments. Archaeologists have catalogged a variety of shields, with wood cores ranging from two or three layers of strips, with facings of fabric, hide, or both. The facing did not always cover the back either. Edgings are found to be leather or rawhide. The boss found also has a wider bowl than other examples like the Tyne.

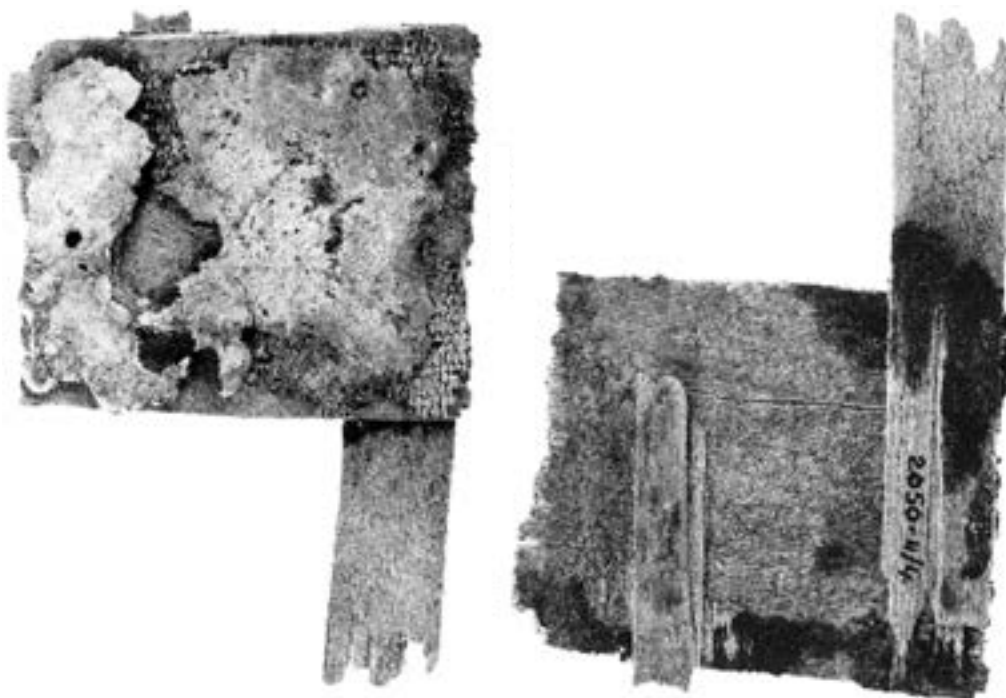
Using Masada in Legio XIII Reconstructions:

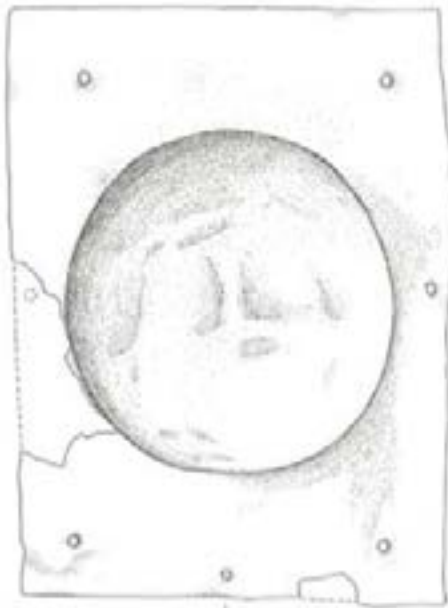
Acceptable adaptations:

- Two-layer or three-layer wood core construction.
- Linen fabric facing on the front, back, or both.
- Rawhide or leather facing on the front, back, or both.
- Wide-bowl square bosses.
- Leather or rawhide edging.
- Oval or Augustan shape instead of rectangular.

NOTE:

- Wood sheet is an acceptable substitute for your wood core, but the back must be covered.





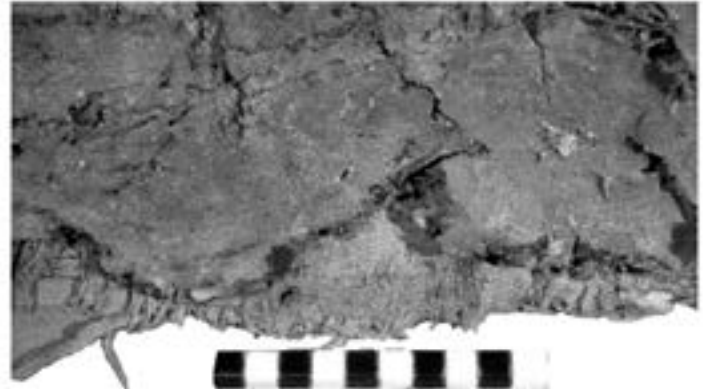
1. Boss (1:2)



2. Boss (cross-section)



1 - Broken board (Photo No. 1)
(188-189)



2 - Broken board (Photo No. 2)
(188-189)



3. Boss



1 - Plywood exhibit board fragment
(188-189)



The Dura Europos Scuta

Note that I say “scuta” and not “scutum”. Dura Europos is one of the most complete finds that exists in the archaeological record. Below, and on the following page is the famous Dura Europos Scutum, which is to date the most complete Roman Legionary shield we have for the Principate Era. It was discovered crushed in a collapsed tower, in addition several oval shields, and several other pieces.

The Dura Europos Scutum shown below, and on the following page, differs slightly from how it was reconstructed. Based on the writings, it had a three layer wood core, like fayum, but is 1/4” all the way through. Without age and degradation, it would probably be closer to 3/8” in the center. It is faced with linen on the front, underneath a layer of rawhide. It has rawhide edging, and the original grip was cut out of the core, with a reinforcement strip of wood on the back. The grip was wrapped in leather. The current grip is a modern replacement designed to look the part. There are also fragments with gessoed linen as a facing, in addition to this find. It is painted very intricately with a casein-based (milk) paint.

Using Dura Europos in Legio XIII Reconstructions:

Acceptable adaptations:

- Milk paint coating
- Linen fabric facing on the front, back, or both.
- Rawhide or leather facing on the front, back, or both.
- Integrated grip made by cutting semi-circles out of the core, and adding a reinforcement strip on the back, with a leather wrapping.
- Leather or rawhide edging.

NOTE:

- Wood sheet is an acceptable substitute for your wood core, but the back must be covered.





The Roman Helmet

The Coolus Helmet

A sister helmet to the Montefortino type, the Coolus helmet is thought to be one of the most common helmet types of the Roman Era, from the time of the Roman Republic up to the end of the first century AD. They were made of bronze, spun into shape, oftentimes being fitted with cheekplates and brow guards. While various regions, like Gaul and Britain, would have had higher quantities of iron helmets, the Coolus is as close as first century Rome comes to having a standard issue helmet, and can be used for auxiliary in addition to legionary impressions. Modern reproductions are bronze and sometimes brass, but both are acceptable due to the rarity of cupric alloys matching ancient counterparts, only traceable in modern cymbals.

The Gallic/Italic Helmets

The Gallic Helmets, and their Italic cousins, are Roman adaptations of Gaulish advancements in ironwork, to create standard issue iron helmets for the empire's line infantry. The first example being the Oberaden helmet, sourced to 8BC and likely belonging to an officer, though standard issue helmets do not reach its level of craftsmanship until almost thirty years later, with the Gallic C onwards. Notable about these helmets, is that the Gallic series helmets tend towards much greater intricacy than the Italic series helmets, at first. The Italic B, and C series helmets both are very plain adaptations of Gallic designs. It is not until the Italic D, that they start to match the fashions of the Gallic models. Both models are acceptable for portrayal in our era, with the approved helmet types shown after.

NOTES:

-The Italic A is not featured in this list. It was found in Pompeii, at a time when Roman legions would have disbanded when they reached Italy. Ergo, the dominant opinion of Roman researchers on this helmet type states it to have been a town guard helmet, used by the Vigiles or by the Urban Cohorts.



Above, the Oberaden Helmet, dated to 8BC.



The Coolus Helmet:





The Coolus C:



Coolus C helmet as sold by Daniyal Steelcrafts here:

<https://www.daniyalsteelcrafts.com/product-list/helmets/roman-helmets/dsc-h112-coolus-c-helmet/>

The Coolus C: Original Finds:



The Coolus D:



The Coolus D: Original Finds:



The Coolus E:



Photo Credit to Matthew Amt of Legio XX: <https://www.larp.com/legioxx/>

The Coolus E: Original Finds:



The Coolus F:



Replica Crafted by Domus Artificis, as seen on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/domusartificis>

The Coolus F: Original Finds:



The Coolus G:



The Coolus G: Original Finds:



Gallic/Italic Helmets





The Gallic A:



The Gallic A: Original Finds



The Gallic/Italic B:



The Robinson Typology classes the Gallic B, shown above, as separate from the Italic B, an original for which is shown top & bottom left, on the next page. However, these two models are so close in appearance, that we consider them the same helmet, for the purposes of this guide.

The Gallic/Italic B: Original Finds:



The Gallic C:



The Gallic C: Original Finds:



The Gallic D:



The Gallic D: Original Finds:



The Gallic E:



Reproduction by Ivan Epikhov. Ivan can be contacted here:

https://vk.com/ivanepihov?fbclid=IwAR1P4xuv_xUeYA8aXraIu-FOdF5ywkYBd8jgCKMO4vw4Lj9_wrqP6zLLvWg

The Gallic E: Original Finds:



The Gallic F:



The Gallic F: Original Finds:







The Gallic G:



The Gallic G: Original Finds:



The Gallic H:



Photo Credit to The Metatron, as seen on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIjGKyrdT4Gja0VLO40RlOw>

The Gallic H: Original Finds:



The Gallic I:



The Gallic I: Original Finds:







The Gallic J:



NOTE: The Gallic J has a disputed date range. The Robinson Typology dates it to 100-125 AD, but it is similar in style to mid-late styles of the 1st Century AD. It is accepted at Legio XIII encampments and events.

The Gallic J: Original Finds:



The Italic C:



The Italic C: Original Finds:



The Italic D:



NOTE: Centurion Crest not approved for use among non-officer members.

The Italic D: Original Finds:



The Roman Cuirass

Lorica Hamata

Despite Hollywood portrayals, the Hamata, or maille, is the most common armor of the Roman Era. It is a type of mail armour used by soldiers for almost 2,000 years from the Roman Republic, all the way to the fall of Constantinople. It is very easy to maintain, only requiring periodic oiling (once per month and once after every use) and storage in a dry area. Hamata can be worn without padding, though it is not advised.

Lorica Segmentata

The lorica segmentata (segmented cuirass) is the first real example of steel plate armor in use by common soldiery, and is famous for its portrayals by Hollywood and other such media. The reliefs show us that this armor type was actually less common than the lorica hamata. This armor offers superior protection to the hamata, but must be more closely tailored to the user's body, and requires regular maintenance. Please make sure your measurements are accurate before ordering.

APPROVED SEGMENTATA PATTERNS: Kalkriese, Corbridge A and Corbridge B

Lorica Squamata

The lorica squamata is a type of scale armor used by the Roman military from the time of the Roman Republic onwards. It was made from small laced metal plates, against a fabric or leather backing. It is disputed just how common this armor is. Some believe that it is more a provenance of the east, and would have only seen use by officers in the west. Others argue that finds of scale plates in forts all over Roman territory indicate it to be quite common. Because of its disputed nature, we require new members ask permission before buying, to ensure accurate representation of different armor types within the legion.

NOTES:

-Deepeeka Segmentatae are not permitted for new members. If you are joining the legion and already have one, we will permit you to use it but will eventually expect you to upgrade.

-Measuring your chest/waist can be done for you by a professional tailor. You want length, width, and diameter, before buying. Leave at least ½ inch extra for padding when buying body armor.

-Squamata purchases require permission from Legion Command.





Photo Credit to The Metatron, as seen on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIjGKyrdT4Gja0VLO40RIOw>



The Lorica Hamata



The Lorica Hamata: Original Finds:







The Lorica Segmentata:



The Lorica Segmentata: Original Finds:







The Lorica Squamata:



The Lorica Squamata: Original Finds:







The Subarmalis

Armor does not work effectively without padding. Unpadded, armor may be able to stop cuts and stabs, but the impact will transfer directly into the defender's body. Therefore, padding is necessary to maximize the defensive potential of the armor that you are wearing. For legionaries of the rank and file, these would have been a basic vest, made of padded linen, wool, or both! Some could have been salvage projects from old worn out tunics, and scratch built vests made from scraps of linen and wool are acceptable.

Pteruges

The purchase of pteruges (decorative strips protruding from under the armor, shown below) is prohibited for non-officer members. If you own a subarmalis with pteruges, and have had it prior to the date of when this rule went into effect, effective 6/30/2019, you will be allowed to use them. However, if you choose to upgrade or replace your subarmalis, the replacement will NOT be allowed to have pteruges. They were a rich man's item, and are sparse in depictions of basic legionaries, ergo this rule seeks to adhere members to what the archaeological records show.



Subarmalis images provided by Fabrica Cacti.



Subarmalis images provided by Duendecya.

The Subarmalis: Original Finds:



Roman Armaments:

Gladius:

The gladius is a short thrusting sword used by the romans from the 2nd century BC until about the 3rd century AD. The word gladius simply means “sword” and so would have been used to refer to ALL swords, however today it is used to discuss a specific class of swords. Prior to the 2nd century BC, the romans used a short sword similar to the Greek Xiphos, however, after campaigning against the Celtiberians in Spain (Hispania) they adopted the local spanish style of sword, today called the Gladius hispaniensis.

Initially, the republican era romans thought that their short xiphos style swords were superior to the celtic and gaulish longswords, however after their fights against Hannibal, the Romans realized that the Spanish Mercenaries who fought alongside Hanibal had swords that could cut, hack, and slash more effectively than their short thrusting swords. This would remain the most common style of sword by the Roman soldier for the next 400 years, and it was excellent for close formation fighting. However, as the roman army adapted to a more individual fighting style using rounded shields, more open spacing, and incorporated more Germanic soldiers into their ranks, the Gladius was soon replaced by the longer Germanic Spatha.

The Roman Imperial Gladius had two edges for cutting and also a tapered point for thrusting, while it commonly stated that the gladius was only for thrusting, it was also an equally effective slashing weapon. The blade featured a full tang was peened over the end of a wood and bone slotted grip, allowing it to fit comfortably and tightly in a single hand. The hand grip should not be overly large, and should just barely be larger than your closed fist, there was a large wooden end knob which prevented the hand from sliding off the end of the grip, which could be either spherical or football shaped. There are three main types of Gladius, which are identified by their blade shape. The original Hispaniensis swords featured a curved “wasped” waist, and the early “Mainz” style swords also had this feature with a long point, these swords commonly had a blade length of 20-22 inches.

The Mainz style swords are found almost exclusively in the northern provinces. The next type of Gladius is the “pompeii” style, which is the most commonly found sword type. This type is found in Italy and the core provinces, and had straight parallel edges, with a short triangular point, this was also the shortest of the types, with a blade length of 18-20 inches. Finally is the “Fulham” type sword, which is also sometimes considered a subtype of the “Mainz” style. It features a slightly wasped waist like the mainz, however it has a shorter triangular point, more like the Pompeii. As it is the latest of the sword styles, it is sometimes considered a hybrid of the two other types.

The Gladius would be covered in a wood scabbard, which was then wrapped in linen or leather, as well as a decorative metal sheet, which could include embossed designs, cutouts, and even silver and gold inlays. On the top side of the scabbard were four brass/bronze rings, which acted as a suspension system for a baldric worn over the shoulder. During the first century, the gladius was worn on the right hand side of regular soldiers, unlike most later medieval swords, as the gladius was short enough to be drawn single handedly, and you would not want to draw the sword across your body while holding a large scutum, as you could accidentally cut your arm. The sword should be worn relatively high, with the grip sitting just below your armpit.

Pilum

The Pilum was an evolution of earlier Italic and Etruscan style javelins/throwing spears. It featured a long thin shank with a pyramidal head. It could either have a cone shaped base that fit over the wooden shaft, or a wide shank style, that would be pinned in place inside a slot in the wood shaft with rivets. Despite what you may have heard, there is no evidence that the shank was designed specifically to bend, however, due to its thinness, it frequently did as an unintentional effect, which would prevent the pilum from being thrown back by an enemy if they picked it up off the ground. After a battle, the romans could pick up the bent pila, and have a blacksmith straighten them back out.

The pyramid shaped head could easily puncture a shield, armor, and bodies. There are accounts of enemy's arms or chests being pinned to their shield from a pilum. Even if the pilum did not hit the enemy, if it hit the shield, it could easily be removed, and having a long heavy pilum sticking out the front of your shield would render it unusable, forcing the enemy to discard their shield, which in many cases, would have been their primary defensive equipment, making it far easier to kill them in close combat.

The pilum would be thrown during an enemy's charge, just a few seconds before the lines clashed together, disrupting the enemy's formation and opening up gaps. Some later imperial visual depictions show a round ball on the end of the shank, presumably a lead weight, used to increase the penetrating power of the pilum, however so far, none have been found. As most roman legionaries no longer carried a spear (although auxiliaries still frequently did), the pilum could be used as a melee spear, or an anti cavalry pike in an emergency

Pugio

The pugio was the dagger and side arm of the roman army. Like the Gladius, it also descended from Hispanic (Spanish) style daggers during the 1st century BC. The blades were around 7-10 inches long, 2 inches wide, and usually had a leaf shaped or wasp waisted blade. The Pugio sheath also had four suspension rings, however, wear patterns on all surviving examples show that only the top two rings were ever used. The pugio should be attached to the left side of the Balteus/Cingulum, by being tied with a string or leather thonging to the round pugio holders. It should be tied tightly and closely to your side, not drooping down and flopping around on your hip. There are no accounts of the Pugio being used in battle, but since it is so commonly depicted, its assumed it was used as a side arm if you lost or broke your gladius. The Pugio scabbard could be decorated quite elaborately with enamel, ornate carvings, jewels, and gold and silver inlay were all quite common. Its entirely possible the Pugio was rarely actually used, and instead served as a status symbol of a soldier.





*Above: Pila image provided by Fabrica Cacti.
Left: Pilum heads by John Kronberg.*





The Mainz Gladius:



The Mainz Gladius: Original Finds:



The Fulham Gladius:



The Fulham Gladius: Original Finds:



The Pompeii Gladius:



The Pompeii Gladius: Original Finds



The Scabbard:



The Scabbard: Original Finds:







The Pilum



The Pilum: Original Finds:



The Pugio



The Pugio: Original Finds:







Training Gladius



Middle gladius made by Bad Hare Pottery, as seen on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BadHarePottery/>

Training Gladius: Original Finds:



Roman Mess Gear:

Plate/Bowl & Utensils

Roman soldiers on the march often carried a mixture of wheat berries, dried legumes, dried cheeses, and dried pork, as military rations. To make matters worse, the wheat berries had to be crushed in order to make bread. To make all of this more appetizing, legionaries often mixed it and whatever they could forage for into a stew. To that end, a wooden or ceramic bowl or plate was necessary, ideally both. Utensils, usually a wooden or metal spoon, were then of course needed to eat their meal. It is not a feast of oysters, but it was nutritious and filling and kept the legions moving.

Patera

Alternatively, Roman soldiers could also utilize a Patera, a tinned bronze cooking pot small enough for personal use, but large enough to prepare several servings of whatever slop they could throw together for that evening. The Patera is the ultimate utility item for cooking and camping, and can be used for drink as well as food, if no cups are available. To that end...

Cup

Cups of ceramic or wooden make would also have been common. These, like plates and bowls, would have been more common at static encampments and fortifications, where such items could be stored when not in use. Simple and straightforward, these would have been used for drinking when off duty, and whether for water or otherwise...



Plate/Bowl & Utensils



Plate/Bowl & Utensils: Original Finds:



Patera



Patera: Original Finds:



Cup



Cup: Original Finds:



Roman Camping Gear:

Small Utility Knife

Small utility knives, some even combined with a large cupric alloy spoon, are attested to in the archaeological records pertaining to Roman Legionaries. As Roman soldiers would be tasked with setup and teardown of camp every day, the ability to make cuts into rope, fabric, leather, and otherwise, would have been essential. Depending on the region, knife styles also become influenced by local styles, such as the celtic ring hilt knives in the regions of Gaul and Britannia.

Carrying Bag

Bags, either of fabric or net, would have been hung on a soldier's camping pole, a Furca, to hold rations, small tools, and any personal items. Some of the most common materials for this purpose would have come from either Hemp or Jute. Goat hair, wool, linen, and leather, have also been used.

Furca

The Roman camping pole, called a Furca, would have been used to store a legionary's camping gear. Shaped like a cross, the Furca was designed for both carrying capacity and comfort. The long pole, when planted in the ground, will take the weight of a legionary's gear off his shoulder with a single step forward.

Dolabra

The common trenchwork tool of a legionary, the Dolabra is an ancient pickaxe, designed for loosening turf and for chopping wood. They have at times, like in the Aedui revolts of the first century, been pressed into combat use as well, though this is rare.

Oil Lamp

Olive oil served many uses in the times of the Romans, from culinary, to religious, to hygienic, and even illuminary. Oil lamps in this era of history used olive oil and wool wicks, in order to burn through the night. Basic ones had a hole to pour oil, and another for the wick, but they could and did get much more elaborate.

Oil Canteen

The infamous iron canteen attributed to the Romans, as far as has been proven, did NOT contain water. Water would have rusted it from the inside out and made thus for a poor drinking container, especially when Roman legionaries mixed vinegar to sterilize their drinking sources. Indeed, the most recent find of one such canteen shows a mixture of honey, oil, and pine resin, but no water.

Sudes

Also called "pilum mirale" or "wall spear" were stakes designed as a defensive measure for Roman encampments. How they were applied is unknown, with interpretations ranging from caltrops, to ad hoc fences, to spiked trenchworks with earthen walls.



Small Utility Knife:



Small Utility Knife: Original Finds:



Carrying Bags:



Above: Carrying bag created by Officina Romana Para Bellum.



Carrying Bag: Original Finds:



Furca:



Furca: Original Finds:



Dolabra:



Dolabra: Original Finds:

PLATE LVII



Oil Lamp:



Oil Lamp: Original Finds:



Oil Canteen:



Oil Canteen: Original Finds:



Sudes:



Photo Credit to Ars Scutae, as found on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/arsscuae>

Sudes: Original Finds:



Pict 2.
The three
stakes from
Aalen.



Approved Vendor List:

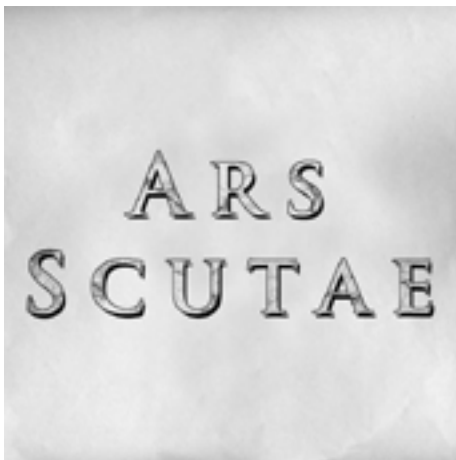
A pre-approved and vetted list of vendors of Roman equipment, for building an impression as a Roman reenactor under Legio XIII.

Unlisted Vendors:

The Legionary's Handbook is a living document that will be continuously updated as time goes on. Ergo, there may be vendors not listed here, that produce excellent quality items for Roman reenacting. Please message command through our Facebook page if you would like to make a recommendation on behalf of a vendor.

Our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/legioxiii/>





Made in Duendecya
Historical gifts

Ancient Armory

The Ancient Armory is the Legion's primary vendor for high-quality shields. "The Armory", for short, is located in the United States and can either ship or do event/local pickup for all shield commissions.

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/ancientarmory/>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *Rectangular Scutum*
 - *Augustan Scutum*
 - *Oval Scutum*
 - *Auxiliary and other non-Roman shields.*





Apex Handicrafts

Apex is one of the Legion's primary suppliers of caligae and calcei. Based in India, they offer very competitively priced footwear made of thick durable leather.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/apexhandicrafts786/>

Approved Items:

- *Caligae (Castleford)*
- *Calcei (Vindolanda Fell Boot)*





Ars Scutae

Ars Scutae is another recommended vendor of extremely high quality shields. All shield types from them are approved for use in the legion, and various levels of intricacy can be commissioned from them. He specializes in laminated shields and natural materials such as hand-made casein paint, casein and hide/bone glue, etc.

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/arsscutae>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *Rectangular Scutum*
 - *Augustan Scutum*
 - *Oval Scutum*
 - *Auxiliary and other non-Roman shields*
 - *Wax tablets*
 - *Sudes*
 - *Tools*
 - *General Woodworking*
 - *Auxiliary and other non-Roman shields*
 - *General Woodworking*





Bad Hare Pottery

Also specializing in Viking Age items, Bad Hare Pottery supplies canteens, amphorae, cups, and other ceramic items, for Legio XIII. They also specialize in very high quality wooden sparring gladii!!

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/BadHarePottery/>

Approved Items:

- *Canteens*
- *Amphorae*
- *Oil Lamps*
- *Cups*





Caleb Burch

The mastermind behind the Project Broadaxe Blog, detailing extensive research on viking and middle age history, Caleb is also a vendor of Roman soft kit. His tailoring is extremely high quality, durable, and he is local to the United States.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/c.burch92>

Approved Items:

- *Soft Kit (All Types)*
- *Winter Kit (All Types)*





CC Espadas

An up and coming sword vendor based out of Argentina, CC Espadas makes gorgeous custom Gladii to order!

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057079165192>

Approved Items:

- *Gladii (All Types)*
- *Pugiones (All Types)*





Clang Armory

Clang Armory specializes in Roman era belt plates and buckles, for those looking to make their own military belt. If you are skilled in leatherworking, and riveting, and want a challenge, we recommend Clang Armory. Clang can also put full belts together on commission.

Contact information:

- <http://www.clangarmory.com>

Approved Items:

- *Belts and Belt Parts*





Claybaby

Local to the United States, Claybaby is the primary supplier of canteens, amphorae, cups, and other ceramic items, for Legio XIII.

Contact information:

- <https://claybabypottery.com>

Approved Items:

- *Canteens*
- *Amphorae*
- *Oil Lamps*
- *Cups*
- *Assorted Pottery*





Daniyal Steelcrafts

Daniyal Steelcrafts, or DSC for short, is our recommended vendor for reenactors with larger heads. They offer helmets for competitive prices and with multiple size options. Our list of approved items from them are shown below:

- Gallic A:
 - <https://www.daniyalsteelcrafts.com/product-list/helmets/roman-helmets/tinned-gallic-a/>
- Gallic C:
 - <https://www.daniyalsteelcrafts.com/product-list/helmets/roman-helmets/dsc-h130-gallic-c-helmet/>
- Gallic J:
 - <https://www.daniyalsteelcrafts.com/product-list/helmets/roman-helmets/brigetio-gallic-j/>
- Coolus C:
 - <https://www.daniyalsteelcrafts.com/product-list/helmets/roman-helmets/dsc-h112-coolus-c-helmet/>
- Coolus G:
 - <https://www.daniyalsteelcrafts.com/product-list/helmets/roman-helmets/dsc-h129-coolus-g-helmet/>





Domus Artificis

Domus Artificis is based out of Italy, and is a reputable vendor of high quality arms, helmets, belts, jewelry, cups, and general fineries.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/pg/domusartificis>

Approved Items:

- *Gladii (All Types)*
- *Helmets (All Types)*
- *Pugiones (All Types)*
- *Gladii (All Types)*
- *Baltei (All Types)*
- *Jewelry*





Dorr Mill

Dorr Mill is an online one-stop shop for all things wool, and has an excellent supply of wool for those looking to make their own tunics, braccæ, or other woolen items.

- Contact information:
 - <https://dorrmillstore.com>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *All 100% wools matching pigments from the natural color guide listed earlier in this guide.*
 - *ACCEPTABLE PATTERNS are as follows: Straight/twill, herrinbone/chevron, and diamond weave. NO PLAIDS OR TARTANS.*





Duendecya

Duendecya, located in Spain, is most famous for its subarmali produced for Roman reenactors across the world. They also produce other items, from tunics, to belts, some of which are previewed here.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/duendecya/>

Approved Items:

- *Soft Kit (all types)*
- *Winter Kit (all Types)*
- *Subarmalis w/o Pteruges (officers may purchase pteruges)*





Ex Limite Avstrali

Ex limite avstrali (“From the Southern border”) is a Roman handcrafting workshop with locations in Argentina and Europe, and specializes in very high quality soft kit as well as handmade leather crafts.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/ExLimiteAvstrali/>

Approved Items:

- *Soft Kit (All Types)*
- *Winter Kit (All Types)*





Fabrica Cacti

Fabrica Cacti, located in Poland, is the Legion's primary vendor for Lorica Segmentata as well as Pila. They also produce high quality cloaks, tunics, gladii, footwear, belts and accessories.

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/FabricaCacti/>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *Soft Kit (all types)*
 - *Winter Kit (all Types)*
 - *Subarmalis w/o Pteruges (officers may purchase pteruges)*
 - *Corbridge A Segmentata*
 - *Corbridge B Segmentata*
 - *Kalkriese Segmentata*
 - *Gladii (all types)*
 - *Pugiones (all types)*
 - *Helmets (all types)*
 - *Shields (all types)*



FABRICA
EXACT

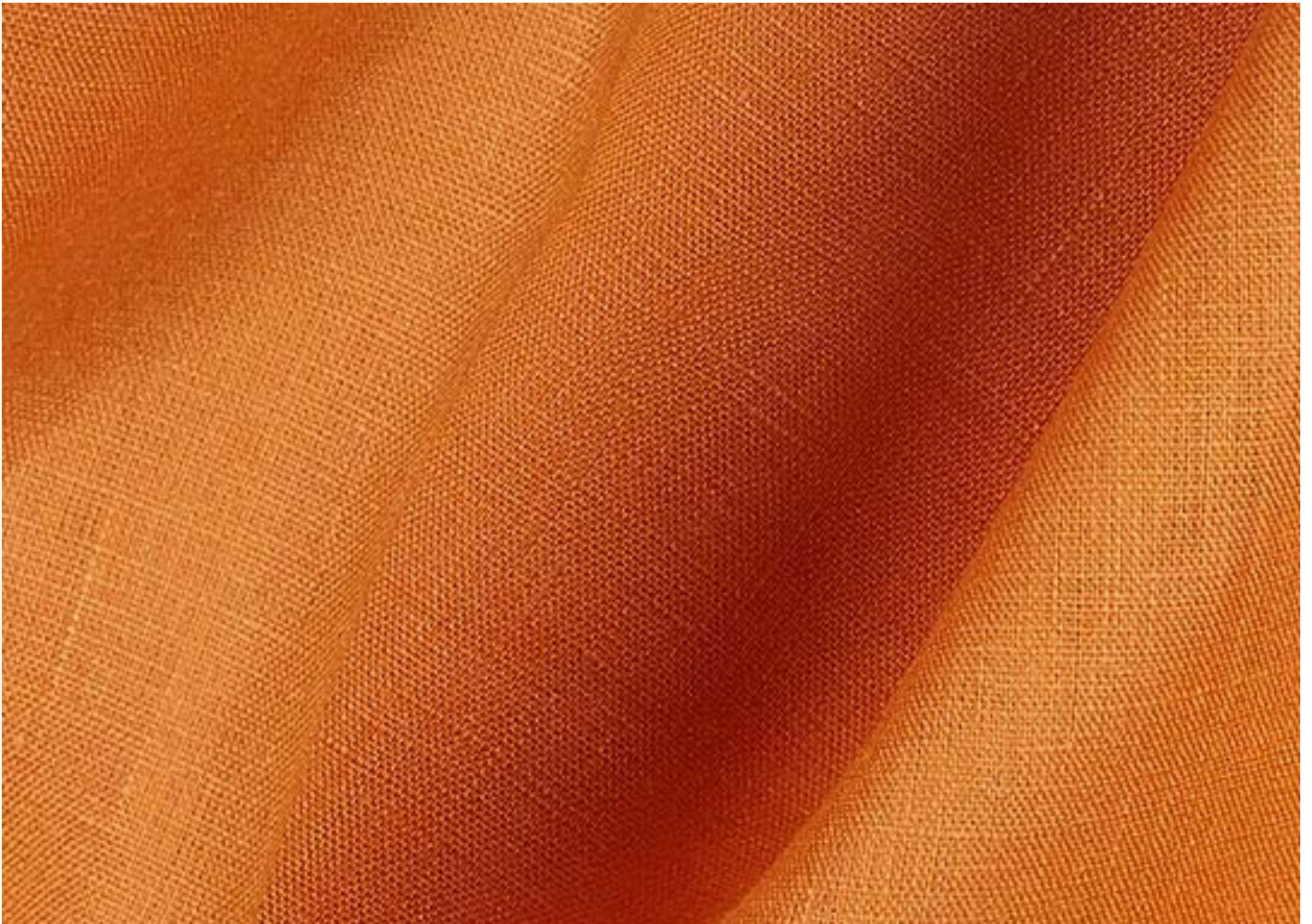


Fabrics-Store

Fabrics-Store is an online one-stop shop for all things linen, and has an excellent supply of linen for those looking to make their own tunics, fascia ventrali, and other linenwear.

- Contact information:
 - <https://fabrics-store.com>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *All 100% linens matching pigments from the natural color guide listed earlier in this guide.*
 - *Undyed (Natural) linen STRONGLY ENCOURAGED for accuracy and cost purposes.*





Genius Steelcrafts

Genius Steelcrafts is our recommended helmet vendor, offering custom work for off the shelf prices.

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063996428970>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *Roman helmets (all types)*
 - *Lorica Segmentata (Kalkriese, Corbridge A, Corbridge B)*





Habibi Armoury

Habibi Armoury is our current recommended vendor for Lorica Hamata, and one of the best maille vendors on the market in its price range. Hamata is both the least expensive and most comfortable of the various options for armor, and is our recommended armor type for new members. Please measure your bare chest diameter and add 10 inches, when ordering.

- Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/HabibiArmoury/>

- *Approved Items:*

- *Lorica Hamata*
- *Shield Bosses*





Hollowing Creek Forge

Fronted by John Kronberg, Hollowing Creek is a supplier of high quality hand-forged blacksmithing items, from pilum heads to butt-spikes (for spears and the like) to Dolabrae and cooking pots. He is local to the United States.

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.hollowingcreekforge.com>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *Iron Items (all types)*
 - *This includes a range. The most popular items are tool heads, pilum heads, butt-spikes, and cookware. John is able to do much more on request.*



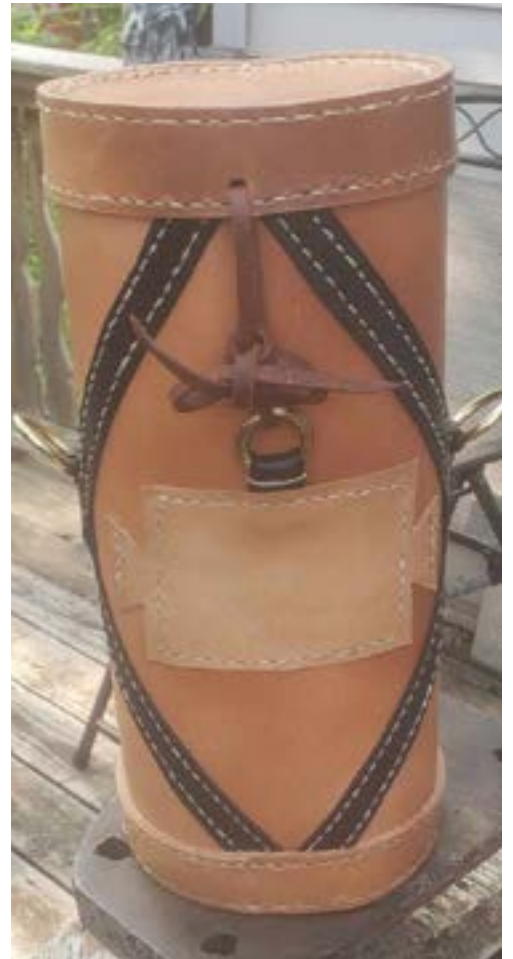


Immune Angusti - Charles Denison

A leatherworking business by Charles Denison. A veteran leatherworker, Charles is capable of making any and all Roman leather items, from shield covers, to bags, and everything else. He can be reached on his Facebook page.

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/charles.denison.52>





KnOtter's Den

A fabric-weaving business by Margaret Branwen Dewey, she is an excellent source for tablet-woven belts, which are approved for sashing tunics!

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/KnOttersDen>
- *Approved Items:*



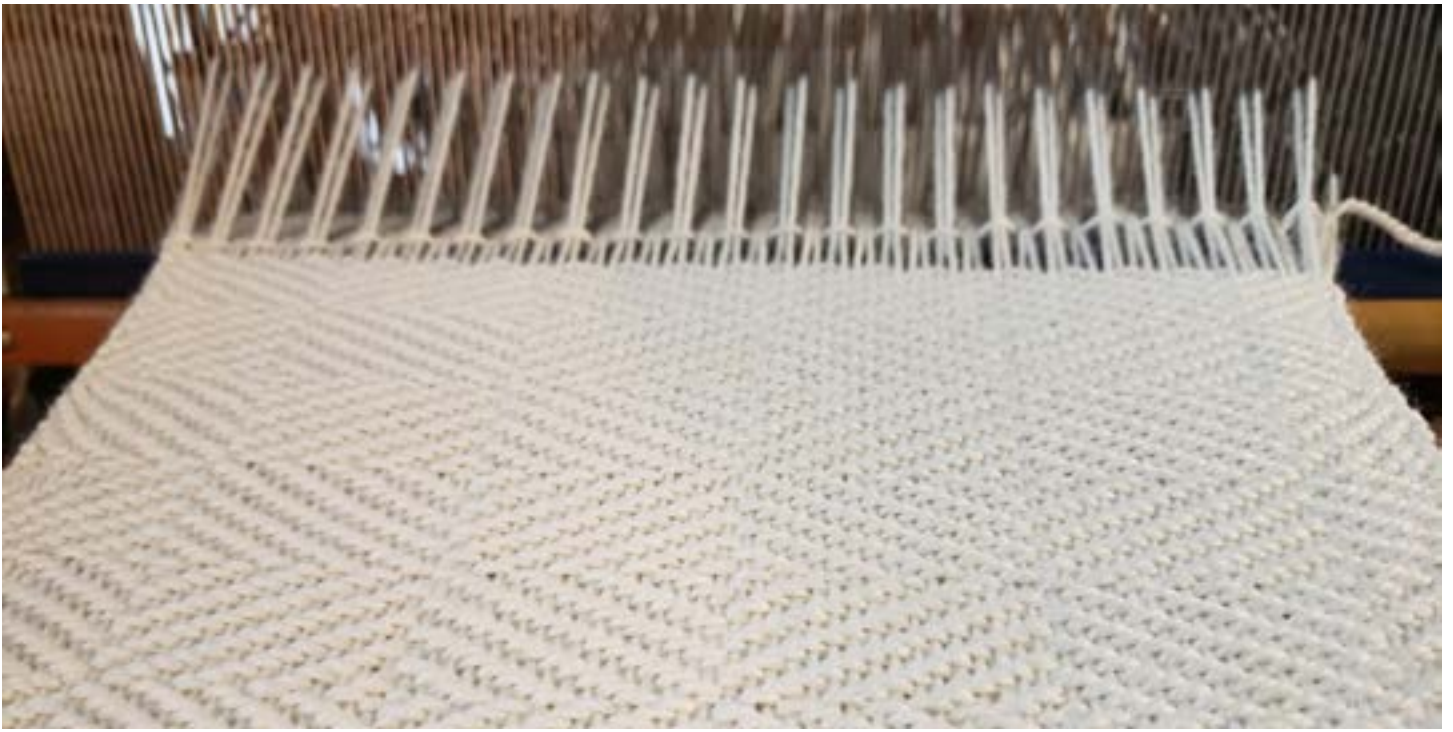


Joke Of All Trades

A midwest-based crafting business by Nate Strickland, Joke Of All Trades does a little bit of everything, from handwoven fabrics to shields, and everything in between!

- Contact information:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/JokeofAllTrades>
- *Approved Items:*
 - *Soft Kit (all types)*
 - *Winter Kit (all types)*
 - *Shields*





Kult of Athena

Kult of Athena is the primary vendor for items produced by Deepeeka, an arms and armor manufacturer based out of India. Approved items for use in Legio XIII are linked in the lists on the following pages. Anything not included in these lists is not allowed for Legion use.

NOTE: Kult's helmets are very round. Know your measurements before ordering, because oblong heads will encounter issues with fit and, at worst, an inability to fit padding into the bowl.



Approved Pugiones

- **Basic Pugio:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH3264P&name=Roman+Pugio>
- **Exeter Pugio:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH3264X&name=Exeter+Pugio+Dagger>
- **Leeuwen Pugio:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH3264A&name=Leeuwen+Pugio+Dagger>
- **Titleburg Pugio:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH3264T&name=Titleburg+Pugio>

Approved Helmets

- **Gallic A:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6306N&name=%0bCeltic+%27%27Port+Bei+Nedau%27%27+Helmet++20+Gauge>
- **Gallic B:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6321&name=Imperial%0b+Roman+Gallic+Helmet+>
- **Gallic C:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6307N&name=%0bImperial+Roman+Gallic+%27%27C%27%27+Helmet++20+Gauge+Steel>
- **Gallic F:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6315B&name=%0bRoman+Gallic+%27%27F%27%27+Becancon+Helmet++18+Gauge+Steel>
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6315C&name=%20%0bRoman+Imperial+Gallic+%27%27F%27%27+Nijmegen+Helmet++20+%0bGauge>
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6315B&name=%0bRoman+Gallic+%27%27F%27%27+Becancon+Helmet++18+Gauge+Steel>
- **Gallic G:**
 - <https://www.kultofathena.com/product/imperial-roman-gallic-g-helm-18-gauge/>
- **Gallic H:**
 - <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6053N&name%20%0b=Roman+Gallic+H+Helmet>
 - NOTE: This model has very short cheek plates. Better for smaller heads.

• Gallic I:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6060C%0b&name=Roman+Gallic+%27%27I%27%27+Acquinicum+Helm+-%0b+18+Gauge+Bronze>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6060N&name%0b=Roman+Gallic+%27%27I%27%27+Acquinicum+Helm++18+Gauge>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6059N&name%20%0bRoman+Imperial+Gallic+%27%27I%27%27+Mainz+Helm++20+Gauge%0b+Brass>

• Italic B:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6317N&name%0b=Roman+Imperial+Italic+%27%27B%27%27+Helm++18+Gauge>

• Italic C:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6057B%0b&name=Roman+Imperial+Italic+%27%27C%27%27+Helm++18+Gauge>

• Italic D:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6054N&%20%0bname=Roman+Imperial+Italic+D+Helmet>

• Coolus C:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6055N%0b&name=Roman+Coolus+%27%27C%27%27+Helm++18+Gauge>

Coolus D:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6316N%20%0b&name=Roan+Coolus+%27%27D%27%27+Helm++18+Gauge>

• Coolus E:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6051N%0b&name=Roman+Coolus+%27%27E%27%27+Helm++18+Gauge>

• Coolus G:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6308N&%20%0bname=Roan+Coolus+%27%27G%27%27+Helm++18+Gauge>

Approved Gladii

• Mainz Gladii:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH2008&name=Tiberius+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4209N&name=Roman+Mainz+Gladius++Red+Scabbard>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4209&name=Roman+Maintz+Gladius+with+Embossed+Scabbard>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH2005&name=Roman+Maintz+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4209A&name=Legionary+Mainz+Gladius>

• Fulham Gladii:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH2007&name=Fulham+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH2010&name=Fulham+Gladius>
 - NOTE: This blade is more in line with Pompeii typology.
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4209B&name=Fulham+Rondel+Gladius>
 - NOTE: This blade is more in line with Pompeii typology.

• Pompeii Gladii

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4204&name=Titus+Vespasianus+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4211B&name=Pompeii+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4211C&name=Pompeii+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4211N&name=Roman+Pompeii+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4209X&name=Roman+Pompeii+Gladius>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH4210&name=Roman+Bone+Hilt+Pompeii+Gladius>

Approved Belts

• Tejike Belt:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6726&name=Roman+Tekije+Cingulum>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6727&name=Roman+Tekije+Cingulum+with+Tassets>

• Reinhoneheim Belt:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6796&name=Reingonehim+Cingulum++Roman+Belt>

• Mainz Belt:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6798&name=Roman+Mainz+Cingulum+Belt>
- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6798T&name=1st+Century+Tin-Plated+Mainz+Balteus>

• “She-Wolf” Belt:

- <http://www.kultofathena.com/product.asp?item=AH6797&name=Roman+Cingulum+Belt++%27%27She-Wolf%27%27+with+Romulus+and+Remus>

Lyba Steel Crafts

Lyba Steel Crafts is a vendor for maille armor, called Lorica Hamata. Hamata is both the least expensive and most comfortable of the various options for armor, and is our recommended armor type for new members. Please measure your bare chest diameter and add 10 inches, when ordering.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/lyba.steelcraft>

Approved Items:

- *Lorica Hamata*





Medieval Design

Based out of Italy, Medieval Design offers exceptional quality soft kit and winter kit. This vendor is also notable for offering an “all in one” soft kit package for first century Roman impressions. Please request that any tunics by this vendor be made without Clavii, per Legion policy on limiting Clavii in the group.

Contact information:

- <http://www.medievaldesign.com/english.asp>

Approved Items:

- *Soft Kit (All Types)*
- *Winter Kit (All Types)*





Medievaldesign

Michelle Hildebrandt

An officer of Legio XIII Michelle Hildebrandt specializes in leatherworking of all types, and is most famously known for her belts and her baldrics. She is available for commission and can be contacted on Facebook.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/mhildebrant1>

Approved Items:

- *Baltei/Cingula*
- *Shield Straps*
- *Leather Bags*
- *Baldrics*
- *Tunic Belts*
- *Misc Leatherwork Commissions*





Nathan Haines

Nathan Haines specializes in boxes of all types, but also produces furcae, and other woodworking items on request. A box is highly recommended for concealing modern necessities like medical packs, toiletries, and other hygiene items.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/nathan.haines.71>

Approved Items:

- *Period Accurate Boxes*
- *Furcae*
- *General Woodworking*





Officina Romana Para Bellum

Headed by Fillipo Masci, Officina Romana is another exporter of high quality items, including footwear, belts, and satchels. They also offer a functional Loculus water bag.

Contact information:

- www.facebook.com/pg/officinaromanaparabellum/

Approved Items:

- *Calcei (All Types)*
- *Baltei or Cingulua (All Types)*
- *Bags (All Types)*
- *Loculus*





Pustelak Brothers Art Workshop

Pustelak is the absolute top of the line for Roman helmets of any type. Their helmets are all raised from single sheets of either steel or bronze, and handmade to absolute perfection.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057607085086>

Approved Items:

- *Helmets (all types)*





Replik

Based in Germany, Replik shop turns out very high quality buckles and belt fittings, in silver or bronze. They also sell fibulae with which to pin your cloak, in addition to rings, jewelry, hamata hooks, and other accessories. Highly recommended for all of the above.

Contact information:

- <https://www.replik-shop.de/index.php?language=en&>

Approved Items:

- *Belt Parts*
- *Fibulae*
- *Jewelry*
- *Hamata Hooks*
- *Misc. Accessories*





Terry Hyduke

Based in the United States, Terry Hyduke is a skilled potter and ceramic worker, and can make everything from cups to canteens and everything in between!

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/690371871062986/user/100000036683386/>

Approved Items:

- *Pottery & ceramics*





Valeria Corvina

Valeria is a master tailor, based out of Italy, and is a well known recommended supplier of all different types of fabricwear, including naalbinding socks, mittens, and caps.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/valeria.corvina>

Approved Items:

- *Soft Kit (All Fabrics)*
- *Winter Kit (All Fabrics)*





Woolsome

Based out of Poland, Woolsome is a vendor of high quality fabrics, both linen and wool. They have plain weave, herringbone, and diamond weave wool in a myriad of colors. They also offer blankets and cloaks for camping, both of which come with strong recommendations.

Contact information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/woolsome.shop>

Approved Items:

- *Fabrics (Linen and Wool)*
- *Cloaks*
- *Blankets*



