

18th Century Men's Clothing

The everyday summer clothing of the Pennsylvania farmer in the last half of the 18th century consisted of a bleached homespun tow or linen long sleeved shirt, knee breeches or long trousers, a vest, neckerchief, shoes and stockings. Because the Goschenhoppin Folk Festival takes place during the summer you will probably not see anyone wearing a coat over their vest.

Knee Breeches: The knee breeches for the farmers of the time period were made of cloth (tow, linsey-woolsey, worsted wool, linen) or leather. The breeches fit tightly around the knee and the thigh so they material of the leg would not rise when they sat down, but loosely in the rear so they could sit down without tearing the fabric. The waistband is secured with buttons in the front and the back has a laced adjustable gusset. All of this is covered with a buttoned front fall in place of a modern day zippered or buttoned fly.

Shirts: Shirts are worn tucked in the knee breeches or trousers. The neckerchief can be worn on top or underneath the shirt collar and tied in a double knot under the chin.



Low Crowned Straw Hat

Long Sleeved Shirt
with Neckerchief

Waistcoat or
Vest

Knee Breeches with
Tan Stockings

Leather shoes with Ties
or Buckles