

## RAF Costume Guide

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



### General information

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

### Hiring

There are a few companies hiring out complete RAF uniforms, if this is easier for you than buying the bits separately. [Maddermarket theatre](#) is our recommended rental company, and we are able to collect and return any costumes hired for the game. Please simply state that the rental is for Wing and a Prayer when you make contact.

Other companies include: [Angels](#), [1940s Costume Hire](#), [Masquerade](#).



## RAF - Essentials

RAF characters should wear one of the available uniforms, either service dress, or flight kit, or a combination of the two. The flight crews seem to have worn quite a variety of combinations of kit while on duty, as can be seen in the photos above. This gives you quite a bit of flexibility in putting together an appropriate look!

### Service Dress

**Shirt** - A blue/grey colour button up shirt. Link [1](#)

**Tie** - Made from woven black wool or a **non shiny** synthetic. Charity shops and ebay are good for these, Link [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

**Trousers** Blue wool barathea. Link [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

**Shoes** - Plain black laceup shoes with a minimal heel, shiny but not patent Link [1](#)



### Flight suit

This outfit is best worn over the service dress above, but can be worn on its own if your budget is very tight.

**Overalls** - Khaki zip up overalls Link [1](#),

**Flight boots** - Pull on, knee length black leather boots Link [1](#), [2](#)



## RAF - Optional

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

**PT kit** - Blue shorts, white aertex t-shirt, black plimsolls, white socks. PT (physical training), and sports will be entirely optional out-of-game, but if you want to participate you'll need something to wear. These don't have to be spot on at all! Anything vaguely correct will be fine. [Shorts example](#), [Shirt example](#), [plimsolls](#)

**Service Dress Hat** - RAF officer kind. It looks like veteran pilots removed the wire and shaped the hats. Link [1](#), [2](#)

**Jumper** cream roll neck kind. Link [1](#)

**Service Dress Jacket** - Reproduction or more modern RAF jacket is fine, Link [1](#), [Modern](#)

[RAF jacket](#), [Jacket Trousers and Hat set](#) **NB. If you choose to buy a jacket, please check the [Uniform Badges guide](#) to make sure that you get the correct rank badging added.**

**Helmet** - Standard WW2 style but needs to be RAF grey, Link [1](#). Some more information on helmets [here](#)

**Great coat** - Full length, double breasted RAF wool coat - it's unlikely to be cold enough to need (or want) one of these, but if you have one by all means bring it! Easy to find on Ebay

**RAF Ascot Tie** - Link [1](#)

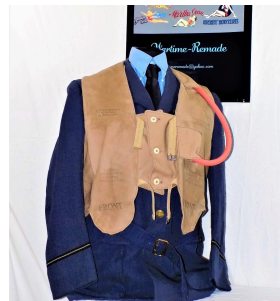
**Flight Jacket** - Brown leather/shearling zip up jacket. Fortunately there are loads of these on Ebay for very low prices. You're after the brown ones!

**Flight helmet** - Leather or cloth cap with space for a headset, Link [1](#), [2](#)

**Flight goggles** - Shaped lenses. Link [1](#)

**Mae West** - Yellow life jacket. Link [1](#)

**Pyjamas** - Blue and white striped pyjamas - shirt and trousers style (anything that fits this description should be fine as you'll be wearing them in the dark mostly!)



**RAF - Hair and make-up**



For those who are up for a trip to the barber's, men's hair in the 1940s was pretty much limited to one style - short back and sides and plenty of brylcreem! Moustaches were also fairly common, in a thin, Errol Flynn style.



### The Dance

All characters are welcome to wear civilian clothes in any late 1930s or early 40s style at the dance should they prefer that to their Service Dress, although wearing uniform to a dance was very common.

For men, civilian dress mostly means a suit! 40s styles are very close to 90s style suits, so should be simple to find. Broad shoulders, narrow waists and double breasted jackets were paired with wide legged trousers worn high on the natural waist.

