



**LADIES AUXILIARY FASHION COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS**

## **COSTUME FAQ FOR GENTLEMEN**

### **1. What if I can't afford a tailcoat or tuxedo?**

Thrift stores are your friend! Many have coupons, sales, and special discount days. Just do a map search on thrift stores. For those in the Denver/Boulder area, ask a member of the White Star Line Ladies Auxiliary Fashion Committee for advice about a thrift store near you. We'll also post sales and events we hear about on the Titanic Weekend Facebook page. More specifics and help:

The gentlemen's costume page suggests three types of dress:

- a. **First Class:** The White Star Line Ladies Auxiliary Fashion Committee has purchased several tuxedos with you in mind! They are for sale for only \$20 apiece, leaving only the white shirt and bow tie for you to procure on your own. Contact Dorothy to see if one is available in your size (note: if that price is beyond your budget, talk to Dorothy to arrange a tuxedo loan or discount). Tuxedos, tuxedo shirts, and bow ties are frequently available in thrift stores at reasonable prices, and sometimes tailcoats can be found there as well. Tux shirts can be obtained online for as little as \$20–\$25 ([cheaptux.com](http://cheaptux.com), [finetuxedos.com](http://finetuxedos.com)), or go to [Burlington Coat Factory](http://Burlington Coat Factory), where I've seen them for about \$15, and black bow ties for \$3.
- b. **Steerage:** Check the costume page for ideas on what third class passengers on the Titanic might have worn. Then hit the thrift stores! You should be able to find a great outfit for about \$20 total.
- c. **Crew:** Again, haunt the thrift stores for a Navy uniform, or add a few gold stripes to a double-breasted navy blue or black blazer.

### **2. What if I feel too hot in a jacket or too chokey in a tie?**

Check the costume page, and opt for a third class or crew uniform with just a vest. Ties don't have to choke you! Wear a shirt with a slightly loose collar, and tie the tie only tight enough to for the collar.

### **3. What if I feel silly when I get dressed up or wear a costume?**

For this case, the very plain black tuxedo is the ticket (see question 1) Remind yourself that everyone else will be wearing one too. The best way to fit in is to dress just like everyone else—forget that it's a costume, and consider it like a uniform or sports jersey: the odd man out on the gridiron or soccer field would be the one who's not in team colors.

### **4. What if I don't know what attire of the period looks like?**

Check the costume page and download the men's costume PDF.

### **5. What if I don't have time to put together a costume?**

The White Star Line Ladies Auxiliary Fashion Committee is here to help! Join a thrift store shopping field trip. We'll help get you garbed with just a few hours of your time.

**6. Can I wear a modern suit?**

Yes. Men's dress clothes have changed very slowly and only in small ways over the last century, with a few exceptions: remember leisure suits? Brightly colored zoot suits? Other than those extremes, a modern suit will fit in quite well, especially with a more subdued tie.

**7. What about shoes?**

Whatever you regularly wear for dancing will work just fine.