

# COSTUMES OF ROME



# MALE COSTUMES

The ordinary clothing for Roman men were the toga and a short-sleeved or sleeveless, knee-length tunic. The tunic was an undergarment which was put on where as the toga was considered an outer garment which was wrapped around. Most urban Romans wore shoes, slippers and boots of various types; in the countryside, some wore clogs.



# The Toga

The toga was a loose outer garment without sleeves which was open from the waist upwards. The material to make a toga consisted of a single broad piece of woolen cloth of a shape similar to a semicircle. The toga was draped gracefully by placing an edge on the left side of the body which extended from the lower legs up over the shoulder, around the back and beneath the right arm and the loose end of material was thrown over the left shoulder. It was generally made of undyed white wool, except the border of the toga which was colored according to the status of the wearer. There were many different types and names of togas.



# The Tunic

The tunic was usually made of wool. The tunic in its variety of different forms was worn by people of all classes and those worn by men were with and without sleeves and cut in a variety of lengths. Tunics were made from many different types of materials. The tunic was fastened by a girdle or belt around the waist, to keep it tight, which also served as a purse. Roman senators wore a tunic with broad band or strip called the tunica laticlavia.



Loincloths, known as subligacula or subligaria could be worn under a tunic. They could also be worn on their own, particularly by slaves who were engaged in hot, sweaty or dirty work.



# The Cloaks

The purpose of roman cloaks was primarily to provide protection from the weather, the cold and rain. Some cloaks had hoods attached to them. the paenula was a very simple type of roman cloak consisting of a piece of material with a central hole allowing the wearer to slip the cloak over the head. The abolla was the name of a cloak worn by wealthy and aristocratic patricians and were made of different types of rich, costly materials. The paludamentum was an expensive ankle length cloak, fastened on the right shoulder with a gold or jewelled clasp or brooch, which was worn on state occasions at first by roman generals and later by Roman Emperors.



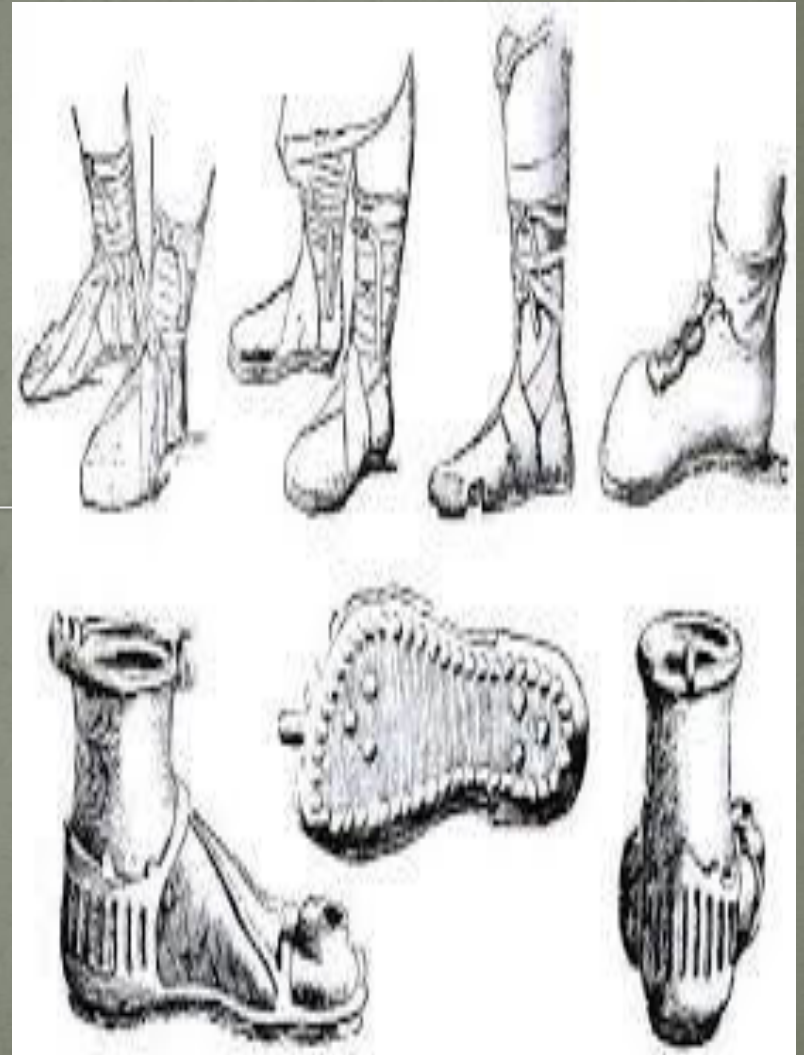
# Military costume

Common soldiers seem to have dresses in belted, knee-length tunic for work or leisure. In the northern provinces, the traditionally short sleeved tunic might be replaced by a warmer, long-sleeved version. Soldiers on active duty wore short trousers under a military kilt, sometimes with a leather jerkin or felt padding to cushion their armor, and a triangular scarf tucked in at the neck. For added protection from wind and weather, they could wear the sagum, a heavy-duty cloak also worn by civilians.



# Footwear

Roman citizens wore sandals (soleae) which was footwear without toe coverings indoors and shoes or boots (calcei or calceus), footwear with toe coverings with straps which covered the ankles, the calf, or up to the knee, outdoors. The materials used to make Roman sandals and boots was predominantly leather. Roman soldiers who were expected to march for many miles had to have strong shoes which were called caliga. The sole of the caliga was thickly studded with hobnails.





# Jewelry in ancient Rome



- ✎ Back then men were only allowed to wear one piece of jewelry and it was usually a ring to mark wax while sealing documents.
- ✎ Jewelry could be added, either decoratively or functionally, like the brooches seen holding together the front and back of clothing for Roman women.



# Hair styles in ancient Rome

## Rome

- ✎ In ancient Rome women could do what ever they wanted to do with their hair. They could color it, curl it or chop it off if they wanted to.
- ✎ Hair curlers, pins, and hair net were commonly used.
- ✎ They used pins made out of wood, ivory, crystal, silver or painted bone.
- ✎ They curled their hair by rolling their hair on a cylinder and putting another cylinder on top of it and heating it with fire. They colored their nail with a henna.
- ✎ All men had their hair cut short and shaved. After the time of Hadrian some men began growing beards.





# Cosmetics



- There were cleansers and foundations in ancient Rome. But the latter were poisonous sometimes.
- Perfume was used very often that it was considered strange if they didn't wear it.

Flowers and plants were blended into a cream made from animal fats and oils.

- Eye shadow was made from saffron. The Romans used the green coloring which was made from the crushed malchite stone.
- The Roman women then applied rouge over the foundation layer of make-up to stain their cheeks. The rouge was also used as lip color to stain their lips.



# Comparison between men and women clothing



## Men

- ☞ While the Roman national garment may have been the toga, it was unsuitable for active work, so the *tunica* was the common dress of those who had to work for a living.
- ☞ In inclement weather or for reasons of fashion, Romans would wear certain outer garments, mostly cloaks or capes pinned at the shoulder, fastened down the front or possibly pulled over the head
- ☞ Woolen cloaks called *Paenula* worn by men
- ☞ Sagum were worn by soldiers because it was looser than *Paenula*
- ☞ *Paludamentum* - the red- purple *sagum* of Roman generals
- ☞ The *paludamentum* reached to the knees or lower -- it was larger than the common soldier's *sagum*

## Women

- ☞ Roman women wore the ankle-length, pleated dress known as the *stola*, which could have long sleeves and fastened at the shoulder with the clasp known as a *fibula*.
- ☞ Such garments were worn over the tunics and under the *palla*
- ☞ The *stola* was the equivalent of the Roman man's *tunica*; the *palla*, the equivalent of the man's toga