

Chart of Elizabethan Sumptuary Laws

SOCIAL RANK	PERMITTED TO WEAR	ON ARTICLE OF CLOTHING
Monarch, Monarch's Family	cloth of gold silk fabrics the colour purple, in any fabric	<i>all clothing</i> <i>all clothing</i> <i>all clothing</i>
Knights of the Garter	purple silk	<i>mantles only</i>
Barons, Viscounts	gold-tinselled satin (silk or cloth mixed or embroidered with gold) cloth of silver, silver-tinselled satin (silk or cloth mixed or embroidered with silver) imported woollen cloth	<i>doublets, jerkins, cloak linings, gowns and hose only</i> <i>doublets, jerkins, cloak linings, gowns and hose only</i> <i>caps only</i>
Privy Council, Sons and heirs of Dukes, Marquises and Earls	crimson velvet black <i>Furs of Genets</i> and <i>Furs of Lucerns</i> pearls	<i>all clothing</i> <i>all clothing</i> <i>all clothing</i>
Lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer, President of the Council, Privy Seal	velvet in any colour except purple and crimson satins and silks in any colour except purple furs, except <i>Genets</i> and <i>Lucerns</i>	<i>all clothing</i> <i>all clothing</i> <i>all clothing</i>
Sons and heirs of Barons, Knights, Gentlemen attendant upon the Monarch if ambassador for foreign prices	velvet leopard fur silk embroidery	<i>gowns, coars and other outerwear only</i> <i>gowns, coars and other outerwear only</i> <i>gowns, coars and other outerwear only</i>
Gentlemen attendant upon the Monarch in her Privy Chamber, Cupbearers and Servers, Gentlemen Ushers, Esquires for the Body, Esquires of the Stable	clothing trimmed with gold, silver or pearl silk nether-stocks, enamelled chains, buttons and aiglets silk, camlet, damask and taffeta	<i>caps, hats, garters and boothose only</i> <i>caps, hats, garters and boothose only</i> <i>gowns, coats, hose and other outerwear</i>
Sons and Heirs of Knights	imported fur, except <i>foins</i> , <i>genets</i> , <i>bodge</i> and <i>wolf</i> (grey) satin, damask, taffeta and camlet sarcent, taffeta and camlet the colour indigo velvet gilt	<i>gowns, coats and other outerwear</i> <i>doublets only</i> <i>linings of gowns and cloaks only</i> <i>gowns, cloaks, coats, jackets, jerkins, coifs and purses only</i> <i>hats, bonnets, girdles, shoes and pantofles only</i> <i>spurs, swords, rapiers, daggers, skeins, woodknives, hangers, buckles and girdles only</i>
Justices, Barons of the Exchequer, Master of the Rolls, Sergeants at Law, Masters of the Chancery, Masters of the Monarch's Council, Apprentices of Law, Physicians of the Monarch, and Mayors	cottons and taffeta in any colour except purple, crimson, violet and indigo	<i>all clothing</i>
Lower Class Men	wool, linen and sheepskin in the following colours only: brown, beige, yellow, orange, russet, green, grey and woad blue (and, if they could be afforded...) silk, taffeta and velvet trimmings	<i>all clothing</i> <i>buttons and linings of coats, cloaks, hats and caps only</i>