



Costuming sets the tone



How to Look Like the Dickens!

Many thrift store items or items from your closet can be altered to create the Dickens style.



So that Chestertown can offer our visitors an authentic Dickens experience, we encourage our event participants and vendors to dress the part of a typical resident of Victorian London. Here are some suggestions to achieve the look.

WOMEN:

Loose fitting long sleeved, high-necked blouses can be cinched at the waist and wrists to create the typical Dickensian blouse. Working class women often paired this blouse with a long, plain skirt and crinoline. Long skirts can be plain or accented with ribbons, lace and a full petticoat or hoop. A long skirt, paired with a mid-length skirt can create the proper full effect. A bonnet or "mobcap" completes the look.

Historically, more complicated dresses were reserved for the wealthy upper class. They involve voluminous layers of petticoats, bustles and ruffles. Many thrift-shop finds can be transformed into lovely Victorian dresses by adding more fullness to the skirt, accents of ribbons, braid, lace and flowers, or adding a collar,

Hats and gloves were crucial to a "respectable appearance." Enormous wide-brimmed hats were covered with elaborate creations of silk flowers, ribbons, and above all, exotic plumes; hats sometimes included entire exotic birds that had been stuffed.



You can create a bonnet from an old straw or felt hat by adding ribbons and flowers. Capes or large scarves can be used as outerwear.

Often, patterns to make clothing and accessories can be purchased online or found in sewing stores in pattern books under "costumes."

MEN:

The top hat or derby was standard formal wear for upper- and middle-class men. Outfits like today's formal wear fit well. Middle- and upper-class men wore overcoats, dress shirts, and vests. The working class wore less fanciful or hand-me-down versions in cheaper materials.



Uncollared or dress shirts with the fold over part of the collar removed paired with a plain, squared-bottom (non-notched) vest achieve a Dickens look. A plain white shirt can be given a period look by turning the collar up. Add a ribbon, scarf or fancy cravat and knot in front.

Pants are straight-legged and worn with suspenders. Most men also wore a frock coat or overcoat, gloves, and a top hat or bowler. A frock coat or tailcoat is easy to create, using a dark overcoat or raincoat. Trim the collar with velvet, silk or brocade, and move the first button to mid-chest, causing the coat to fall in a cutaway fashion. Canes can be carried as an accessory.

Plain, short, lace-up boots work for everyone. Otherwise, plain leather shoes.

Need inspiration or want to purchase an outfit or accessories? Consider these online vendors:
dickensfair.com
trulyvictorian.net
vintagedancer.com
or google victorian costumes



Historic Chestertown's
Dickens of a Christmas
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
December 7-9, 2018

VENDOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in Chestertown's Dickens of a Christmas 3-day event, to be held December 7-9, 2018.

On Saturday, December 8, 10 am - 4 pm, we will feature food, gift and clothing vendors whose products are in keeping with the Victorian era, Charles Dickens, and/or hand-crafted holiday giving, including:

- Traditional British & Victorian-themed foods
- Hand-made gifts (soaps, candles, era-appropriate fashion accessories, etc.)
- Clothing & gifts made from natural fibers/materials
- Literary-themed items related to Dickens and other mid-19th century literary figures
- Traditional holiday greenery and decorations

We ask vendors to dress in Victorian-era attire (See: "How to look like the Dickens") to contribute to the atmosphere of the event.

FEE:
This year we are charging \$60. for each "Stall" under a large tent in LONDON ROW where you will be protected from the weather.

Each stall space will be **7 x 10 and includes: 1 sign, 1 table, table cover, and 2 chairs.** Additional spaces are also available at \$60. each. Vendor is responsible for display equipment. There is no electricity provided.

There are limited spaces for vendors. Please respond by **Nov. 1, 2018** so that you can be included in our advertising.

APPLY TO BE A VENDOR:

Please Print

Date: _____

Name: _____

Business: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Product Description & Photo/s _____

I have insurance: YES I have enclosed photo/s of my products

Information for my sign: (send a logo) _____

We will respond as soon as possible to confirm your placement!

For more information, please contact: Jennifer Baker,

jenn@chesterrivergourmet.com • 443.282.0220

SPACE RESERVATION

I would like: _____ stall/s @

\$ \$60 ea.

Amount:

\$ _____ Check enclosed

Send a Check

Make check payable to:

Main Street Chestertown

Please add "Dickens of a Christmas" on memo line

Mail or drop off:

Main Street Chestertown

118 N. Cross Street • Chestertown, MD 21620

Pay by Credit card

To charge your fee by credit card, contact:

manager@mainstreetchestertown.org

or call: 410-778-2991.





RULES *and* REGULATIONS for DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS

December 7 - 9, 2018

First Friday, December 7, 5 - 9 pm • Saturday, 10 am - 4:30 pm • Sunday, 9-noon

ARTISAN & FOOD VENDORS: GENERAL INFORMATION

Saturday, December 8, 2018, 10 am - 5 pm (Award-winning Farmers and Artisan's Market open from 8 - noon)

PRODUCTS for Sale: REQUIREMENTS

To maintain the atmosphere of Victorian London, it is important that all items for sale reflect the Victorian era, Charles Dickens, and/or hand-crafted holiday giving:

- Traditional British and Victorian-themed foods
- Clothing and gifts made from natural fibers and materials or of a Victorian theme
- Literary-themed items related to Dickens and other mid-19th century literary figures
- Hand-made gifts (soaps, candles, era-appropriate fashion accessories, etc.)
- Traditional holiday greenery and decorations
- Demonstration of your craft would be welcomed!

SIGNAGE

One (1) Victorian era sign is included in your fee

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

As a vendor, you are providing services and/or products to the Main Street Chestertown event. You will be responsible for all setup, operation and breakdown of your booth (or show). Further, you will be responsible for cleaning your area after the event.

Main Street Chestertown accepts no liability for loss due to weather, damage, theft or poor attendance. All vendors must have liability insurance, and you will be asked to provide a COI (Certificate of Insurance) naming Main Street Chestertown as an additional insured. If you are selling liquor, you are responsible for obtaining your own liquor license and providing properly trained personnel. *

VEHICLES

You will receive a vehicle pass that will give you access for unloading in the morning, parking in a vendor lot, and loading up items in the afternoon.

SATURDAY MORNING: Unload and set up booths from 7 to 9 am

SATURDAY AFTERNOON: Load up items from 4 to 5:30 pm

A map with your space/s indicated and a vehicle pass will be provided to all vendors by October 1, 2018.

**NOTE: Dickens of a Christmas will be held rain or snow.
Activities and entertainment will be moved indoors if the weather is inclement.
Vendors and their wares will be protected by tents.**