

FROCK COAT

1. Introduced in 1902 for all Officers RMA and RMLI¹.
2. Still shown for RMA and RMLI in the Appendix to the Navy List, April 1920 but in the January 1921 Appendix for Colonels Commandant and 2nd Commandant only.
3. In the Royal Marines shown for Brigadiers and Substantive Colonels only and of regimental pattern (buttons etc) in the Appendix to the Navy List, December 1927.
4. In the Army not re-introduced into the line infantry after the First World War. Not shown for Infantry Officers but only for Brigadiers, Substantive Colonels, Household Cavalry and Footguards².
5. Re-introduced in the Royal Marines 1939 - shown for all Officers (Optional for Paymasters, Barrackmasters, Quartermasters and Warrant Officers)³.
6. In the Navy for many years up until the outbreak of Second World War.

¹ Appendix to the Navy List July 1902

² Army Officers' Dress Regulations 1934

³ Appendix to the Navy List December 1939

Although worn by the RMA and RMLI prior to the First World War and in the Royal Navy up until the Second World War, the Officers' Frock Coat, by 1921 it had slipped into abeyance in the Royal Marines, except for Colonels Commandant and Second Commandant. It was only just being reintroduced into the Royal Marines for other officers at the time war broke out in 1939, when it was optional for Paymasters, Barrackmasters, Quartermasters and Warrant Officers.

A long skirted blue coat reaching to just above the knee, double breasted with a stand-up collar. A slash with three points and three small Corps buttons on each sleeve. Two rows of six large Corps buttons down the front. A side edge behind on each skirt with a large Corps button on each side edge and one at each side of the waist. Badges of rank, on blue cloth shoulder straps, and collar badges as for full dress tunic.

The full dress crimson sash, overalls and Wellington boots, white gloves and forage cap, were worn with the frock coat. On duty a sword was carried and sword belt and gold slings were worn as in full dress.