

# Doll Clothes of Yore

Original, Historical Designs for 18" Dolls

## Medieval Period: Circa 1100-1400



### 'Catherine of Valois' Dress

#### *History*

#### Who was Catherine of Valois?

Catherine of Valois, or Catherine of France was Queen of England from 1420-1422. She was the wife of Henry V of Monmouth, King of England during her reign. Henry rode off to war and died shortly after their marriage of dysentery.

After her husband's death, Catherine, who was only 21, was unable to marry because of a bill that passed parliament in 1428. Nevertheless, she secretly married Owen Tudor of Wales, a courtier. They had six children together, and one of their descendants was Henry VII of England. Their secret marriage founded the famous Tudor dynasty.

#### *Fashion*

#### What is a 'Chemise'?

A chemise was a long and billowy garment with straight sleeves that fell to the ankles. The chemise was worn underneath all clothing in during the Medieval times. During this period it was considered unhealthy to bath often, therefore the chemise was worn to protect the clothing from the filthy skin.

#### What is a 'Surcoat'?

A surcoat was both a women's and a man's garment during the 1400's. The style began with the Knights in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It was a long and sleeveless garment, often heavily decorated. Lacing was a common method of closure, as it can be adjust easily.

#### What is a 'Girdle'?

A girdle in the Medieval times was simply a belt that was worn low on the waist or around the hips.