

# Doll Clothes of Yore

Original, Historical Designs for 18" Dolls

## Renaissance Period: Circa 1400-1500



### 'Katherine of Aragon' Dress

#### *History*

#### Who was Katherine of Aragon?

Katherine of Aragon is also known as Catherine of Castile. She was the daughter of Isabella and Ferdinand of Spain and was the first wife of King Henry VIII of England. She was also the mother of Mary Tudor, commonly known as 'Bloody Mary'.

Catherine's marriage to Henry VIII plays an important part in history. After several years of marriage, Catherine was unable to bear a male heir to the throne of England. Because of this, Henry VIII wanted to annul his marriage to her in order to marry Anne Boleyn. His push to end their marriage created the English protestant church, which became known as the Church of England or the Anglican church.

#### *Fashion*

This dress is very similar to what might have been worn by a noble lady around 1400-1500. It is in a very French style, but the sleeves are trimmed with 'slashing'.

#### What is 'slashing'?

Slashing one's sleeves or bodice was a very popular fashion around 1500. Typically, the slashes were simply straight cuts in the material to let the fabric of the Chemise, or Shift, peek through. Some examples of this are quite elaborate, being popular with men as well as women.