

# Doll Clothes of Yore

Original, Historical Designs for 18" Dolls

## Tudor Period: Circa 1500-1600



### 'Anne of Brittany' Dress

#### *History*

#### **Who was Anne of Brittany?**

Duchess Anne of Brittany was the last independent Breton ruler and later became the Queen of France. Being the heiress of an important province, Anne was engaged to be married at just 13 years old. When her marriage failed to work out, she was engaged to Charles VIII, the King of France. She was coroneted Queen at 14 years old. When Charles died, Anne was obliged to marry Louis XII, the next King. Anne bore 14 children during her two marriages, but only two lived past childhood. She died at the age of 36, and was the wealthiest European woman at the time.

Anne was remembered as a devoted mother, and an intelligent ruler of her duchy.

#### *Fashion*

This dress was inspired by a period illustration of a French lady, circa 1510. The design of the dress is similar to a portrait of Anne of Brittany, painted by Jean Perreal. Fur was often used as a trimming on the clothing of the wealthy of the Tudor period, both as a sign of affluence and to provide warmth in the drafty castles.

#### **What is a 'Pomander'?**

A 'Pomander' is a wood or metal ball filled with potpourri, incense, or other perfumes. It was commonly worn as a fashion accessory and was often elaborately decorated and studded with jewels. During the Tudor period, it was common to bathe only once a year since bathing was seen as being 'unhealthy'. A pomander was worn, not only as a fashion statement, but the perfumes also helped to mask unpleasant odors.