

# Doll Clothes of Yore

Original, Historical Designs for 18" Dolls

## Regency Era: Circa 1795-1825



### 'Marie Louise' Dress

#### *History*

#### Who was Marie Louise?

Marie Louise of Austria was the second wife of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte and the Duchess of Parma. Napoleon married Marie after divorcing his barren first wife, Josephine. Napoleon sought to gain peace by marrying into foreign nobility. Even though their marriage was an arranged one, it was marked by respect on both sides. Marie was known to be a virtuous and gentle woman. Marie and Napoleon had one son, Napoleon II. After her husband's death, Marie was made Duchess of Parma for her lifetime.

#### *Fashion*

During the Regency period, it was fashionable to look like statues from ancient Greece or Rome. Thus, the most popular color to wear was white. However, later in the period, clothing became more opulent and other colors were popular. Royalty were known to wear elaborately decorated clothing made from a variety of materials.

#### What is 'Venise' lace?

'Venise' lace, or 'point de Venise' is a type of lace that is still popular today in bridal wear. It originated in the 17<sup>th</sup> century in Venice, Italy. It has a rich and soft look that is very distinct.