



Revised Oct 2019

COSTUME, BEADS & BLING GUIDELINES

The Krewe of Ann Jeffrey costume consists of a Pirate Jacket, White Lace Jabot and Cuffs, Black Leggings, and Black Knee High/Over the Knee Pirate Boots and an Optional Pirate Hat. The guidelines for each costume piece are listed below.

PRE-MADE PURCHASE COSTUME:

A pre-made costume is available for purchase online; it is called the "Elegant Pirate Lady". It comes in multiple colors (Black/Gold, Black/Silver, Burgundy/Gold, Blue/Gold), but only the Black and/or Burgundy are usually in stock. KAJ jackets were modeled after this costume. This costume comes with the velvet jacket, velvet pants, jabot and cuffs. Do not wear the velvet pants that come with the costume, we substitute black leggings. It's acceptable to just buy this one and customize it.

****Note**** This costume is getting harder and harder to find. The maker is Charades. The name of the costume is called: Elegant Pirate Lady. The best way to find it is to search through a search engine (Google, Bing) or go to Amazon or Ebay. House of Make Believe in Clearwater: 717-446-1890, housemakebelieve@aol.com

CUSTOM COSTUME:

We encourage you to make a custom jacket. There are a number of seamstresses around town with experience making the KAJ jackets/bustier, but it's possible to use any dressmaker with whom you feel comfortable! Two unchanging features of our jacket are the full flared peplum and the black velvet collar, cuffs and back placket. There is no marketed pattern though, so most seamstresses need a sample jacket to pattern the new one. It's not a big deal, as the costume-maker doesn't do anything (ie. take apart) the sample jacket, so any Krewe sister is usually willing to lend their jacket.

For a custom costume, you will need:

JACKET:

3 yards (average, depending on your size) of a Brocade Type Fabric of your choice**.

1 yard of Black Velvet Fabric (for the cuffs of the sleeves, collar, placket in the back, and jacket lapel)

3 yards (approximately) of Trim of your choice (cording, sequin trim, rhinestone trim, etc.)

16-18 Buttons depending on button size/style

3 yards of lining material (If the jacket material is thin or light weight it may be necessary to line the jacket)

1 pair of thin Half-Moon Shoulder Pads (if desired).

****Note****

Brocade fabric is just a suggestion but not necessary.

JABOT & CUFFS:

1 1/2 yards White Lace

1 yard White Satin

1/2 yard elastic

10 small snaps (2 for jabot, 8 to secure cuffs to jacket)

****If you are crafty, it is also possible to make your own jabot & cuffs (There is no pattern for these items.)***

We highly suggest you have a spare pair of cuffs and jabot.



PANTS:

Black leggings: Purchase the black leggings of your choice. There are plenty of purchasing options for the leggings (ie. Victoria's Secret, Macy's, Spanx, etc.); it is important to make sure the pants are thick material (yoga leggings work best) to provide coverage and prevent see-thru when bending over. *Skin/undies should NOT be visible through leggings at any time. Pants must be flat jet black, no patterns, pockets or emblems. You may want a pair of black tights for underneath for cold parade days.

CORSET/BUSTIER:

CORSET Purchase Corset/Bustier Guidelines:

- Styles: Halter, Tank, Strapless (straight across or sweetheart)
- Please No Front Lacing or Side Lacing
- No Large Clasps/Closures/Buckles on the front or sides
- No Tassels (Really)
- No visible underwires

Make sure the corset is long enough so there is No Visible Skin between corset and pants, and top of the corset/bustier should touch the bottom of your jabot (when worn).

Make sure the corset does not roll down or fall to prevent UNE*(Unnecessary Nipple Exposure).

The back of the corset (lace up style) should not expose more than 3 inches of your back. Many corsets have modesty panels, or you can have an insert panel put in.

Please keep in mind that we are elegant pirate ladies when you are picking out your tops. Styles to refrain from-Steam Punk, Boudoir, or anything that would make your mamma blush. Here are a few websites:

The Fashion Corset Shop: <http://www.thefashioncorsetshop.com/>

Spicy Lingerie: <http://www.spicylingerie.com/>

Glamorose: <http://www.glamorose.com/>

Plus Size Lingerie Boutique: <http://www.plussizelingerieboutique.com>

Lingerie Diva: <http://www.lingeriediva.com/>

Yandy: <http://www.yandy.com/>

Corset Story: <http://www.corset-story.com/>

Amazon.com

Frederick's of Hollywood Dream Corsets: strapless, sweethearts, or Halter styles

**Most of these sites have regular and plus sizes.

CUSTOM MADE BUSTIER:

This is a more modest style top. It does not have boning in it, so it is a bit more comfortable. This requires the purchase of additional fabric to coordinate with the jacket and is made by a seamstress. Depending on what bustier design is desired will determine the amount and types of fabric required. If a bustier is desired, consult another Krewe sister or your costume-maker for advisement on fabrics, etc. You can purchase a pattern for this top. The information is as follows:

McCalls Pattern #3571 Evening Elegance Bustier.



HAT: (OPTIONAL)

The hat is optional to wear. If you desire a hat, you can purchase one at Buccaneer Beads, South Tampa Trading Company, Pirate Fashions, Peaches & Pearls, or various costume suppliers online (amazon).

The two approved options are:

[The Super Deluxe Gaucho Hat for Men & Women, by Rubies Costumes #H201](#)

[The Cavalier Style hat \(similar to the Gaucho hat but with a slightly rounded top\).](#)

Contact sponsor or a member of Costume Committee for confirmation of style prior to purchase

You will want to complete the hat, with trim, feathers and rhinestone pins. You can purchase pre-made or custom made hats at South Tampa Trading Company. Buccaneer Beads will also construct your hat for you. To save money, you can complete it yourself by gluing or sewing the trims and feathers onto the hat. Many krewe sisters do it themselves and are willing to help.

BOOTS:

Pirate boots are required with the costume. Knee or thigh-high is the acceptable style. You can pick any kind of boot you want with or without a heel, but it must be able to pass as a pirate boot.

Here are a couple of websites if you are having a difficult time finding boots to fit your calves:

Zappos: <http://www.zappos.com/>

Simply Be: <http://www.simplybe.com/>

Avenue: <http://www.avenue.com/>

Wide Widths: <http://www.widewidths.com/>

Torrid: <http://www.torrid.com/shoes/>

[Amazon.com](#)

Full Beauty: <http://www.fullbeauty.com/Plus-Size-BR-SHOP-BY-CATEGORYBR-Boots.aspx?DeptId=19720>

Lane Bryant: <http://www.lanebryant.com/plus-size-accessories/shoes/15834c18443/index.cat>

make sure you have comfortable boots and break boots in prior to parade season! You will do more walking than you think on parade day! Think about the socks/nylons you plan to wear on parade day. It's also suggested to consider investing in and using products such as moleskin and/or tape to avoid blisters. Even if you ride the entire parade, you will still be walking a lot.

ACCESSORIES:

Many girls accessorize their costumes with rhinestone pins on their hats; parade earrings and necklaces; pirate hair bow & clips; blingy pirate belts etc. Accessorizing is obviously a reflection of personal Style. KAJ has a hibiscus rhinestone transfer and a "Krewe of Ann Jeffrey" rhinestone transfer available at Buccaneer Beads to apply to any article of clothing or accessory provided by you. KAJ sells various rhinestone pins and our official KAJ trading bead. The Bead and Bling Committee will have these items available for sale at our krewe meetings.

Marie Mckinnon, a fellow Krewe sister, has LOTS of pirate themed bling from jewelry, purses to clothing. Marie sells her items at the South Tampa Trading Company. If you have something particular in mind she may be able to find it for you. South Tampa Trading Company is a mecca for all things pirate and krewe related items. Buccaneer beads has a wide variety of beads, bling and accessories. Plenty of accessories can be found online. Many good places to look are Ebay and Amazon.



Don't forget about St Paddy's day when planning your accessories and costume! The parade is conducted by the Rough Riders and is a more relaxed atmosphere. Although we wear our typical KAJ costume, many girls wear LOTS of GREEN!!

A word on accessories...almost nothing is over-the-top!! If you want to have streaks of color in your hair, DO IT! Glitter in your hair, on your face, in your eyelashes, all over your clothes, DO IT! Temporary facial tattoos, DO IT! Unique jewelry, DO IT!! (Obviously I am only referring to tasteful accessorizing; please do not wear anything that would disgrace yourself or the Krewe of Ann Jeffrey!)

RESOURCES:

Here are some suggestions for resources to acquire a custom krewe costume:

FABRIC: You can get the material from any place you wish, but here are some suggestions:

Jo-Ann's Fabric -Citrus Park, Brandon, New Tampa, Tyron Square Mall

South Tampa Trading Company

Online Resources: EBay, Amazon, Etsy

SEAMSTRESSES: If you have a seamstress that you are comfortable with, and they feels comfortable making the KAJ costume from scratch, certainly use that person. Otherwise, here are some suggestions they have experience with the KAJ costume, or come highly recommended by other Krewes:

South Tampa Trading Company (STTC) If you choose to use a seamstress from STTC contact them early, they are quickly getting booked. (813) [831-7882](tel:831-7882) info@southtampatradingco.net

Peaches & Pearls Boutique (813) 886-7029 - 5897 Memorial Hwy Tampa 33615 ask for Cory

Karen's Krewe Closet–Karen Shuey 4011 Henderson Blvd, Tampa, FL 33629 (813) [286-3071](tel:286-3071)
jkshuey@msn.com (suggest to go early to receive on time)

Alexander Alterations – Julia 5111 Ehrlich Rd # 124 Tampa, FL 336242075 (813) 962-8049

Lauren Whitman – Lauren (727) 215-4617 This seamstress is in Clearwater, She's in the Ye Mystic Krewe of Santa Margarita (the official krewe of Clearwater) and has made most of their costumes. ****Note****She has not made a KAJ jacket.

Yvonne – House of Make Believe (727) 446-1890, housemakebelieve@aol.com

BEADS:

Krewe Beads: These are the special medallion beads reflecting the individual krewes' theme/emblem. These are primarily used for trading with members from other Krewes in the staging area at parades or at multi-Krewe functions during the year. These beads are sold by the Krewe and typically cost about \$2.50 per bead.

Throw Beads: These are the beads you toss to the parade crowd. There are many choices available for throw beads. From different styles, colors, lengths. There are also specialty beads similar to krewe beads, but representing things like military, occupations, holidays, etc. Depending on your choice of throw beads and your tossing frequency during a



parade, it's advised to purchase a minimum of THREE (3) cases of beads. (For an idea of how many that is: Of the 33" 7mm beads, there are typically 60 dozen in a case, so 720 individual strands of beads per case) to cover the four main parades (children's, Gasparilla, Knight, and St Paddy's.) The 33" 7mm beads is the smallest that you can buy, majority of the krewe sister purchase larger/longer strands of beads because they are more desirable. (AKA... Not thrown back at you.)

It's advisable to get your beads in prior to the first week of January!! Most of the local vendors sell out of their stocks pretty early in January; don't be left purchasing the expensive throw beads only sold in small quantities!!

Below are some suggestions for local vendors:

Buccaneer Beads 3808 East MLK Blvd. (813) 664-8571

South Tampa Trading Co. (813) [831-7882](tel:813-7882) info@southtampatradingco.net

Rough Rider bead sale socials

****Buccaneer Beads and South Tampa Trading Company give a discount to Krewe members****

Bead Belts & Bags:

When you purchase your beads, the store will likely include "bead bags" with your cases. These are very handy for carrying beads (after they are out of the case box.) It is common courtesy to remove your beads from the cardboard case box, and the individual plastic bags, prior to bringing them to the float. This is where the bead bag comes in handy!! You can transport your beads to the float in the bead bag.

There are two types of belts: a leather belt with multiple holes that accept metal shower hooks to attach your beads; or alternately a woven belt that accepts Velcro or snap-type loops to attach the beads.

Side note: The Gasparilla Day parade is ~3.3 miles long. It's the longest parade of the season. It will require the most amounts of beads to throw. The other parades are much shorter in length not requiring quite as many beads. It will be possible to drop your beads off at the float prior to the parades, so you do not have to carry them through staging. The float is stored at the Rough Riders Clubhouse; an email will go out prior to an event informing us of float availability for bead drop-off! The address of the float locations is 601 N 19th St Tampa, FL 33605.

Your sponsor can answer any more questions you have, but you can always email, text, or call:

COSTUME COMMITTEE:

(chair) Nancy Hottinger- (813) 830-1924, Nanhott@gmail.com

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BEAD & BLING:

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