

Hints on wearing Tartan

Wearing of sashes by Ladies in evening dress

The manner of wearing tartan sashes or light scarves had custom and significance even two centuries ago, and whilst wearing of sashes in any particular manner has so far no legal significance, a due respect for tradition suggests that uniform practice and implication consistent with custom is desirable. The different methods under-mentioned to wearing such are appropriate to Ladies in different circumstances. All these suggestions are based upon a careful study of old portraits, prints and traditional practice and bear the authoritative approval of the Lord Lyon King of Arms.



Style worn by clanswoman

The sash is worn over the right shoulder across the breast and is secured by a pin or small brooch on the right shoulder.

Style worn by Chiefteness

Wives of the Clan Chiefs or of a Colonel of a Scottish Regiment. The sash which may be rather fuller in size is worn over the left shoulder and secured with a brooch on the left shoulder.



Style for ladies who marry out of their Clan

Such ladies who still wish to use their original clan tartan may use the following style. The sash usually longer than the No1 style is worn over the right shoulder secured there with a pin and fastened in a large bow on the left hip.



Style worn by country dancers

Or where the lady desires to keep the front of her dress clear of the sash (as for example when wearing the ribband of a chivalric order or any orders or decoration). This style is similar to the belted plaid and is really a small arisaid. It is buttoned on at the back of the waist or is held on by a small belt and is secured at the right shoulder by a pin or brooch, so that the ends of it fall backwards from the right shoulder and swing at the back of the right arm.