



Private, 1750.

Officer, 1780.

Sergeant, 1807.

Private, 1835.

Types of old Infantry Uniforms.

The Red Coats

**Red coats were first worn by
British sea-going regiments
when adopted by The Prince of
Denmark's Regiment in 1686**

From the modern perspective, the retention of a highly conspicuous colour such as red for active service appears inexplicable and foolhardy, regardless of how striking it may have looked on the parade ground. However, in the days of the musket (a weapon of limited range and accuracy) and black powder, battle field visibility was quickly obscured by clouds of smoke.



Whether scarlet or red, the uniform coat has historically been made of wool with a lining of a loosely woven wool known as bay to give shape to the garment. The modern scarlet wool is supplied by "Abimelech Hainsworth" and is much lighter than the traditional material, which was intended for hard wear on active service.





**The Red Coat
made its first
appearance in the
battle of dunes in
1658**

**The Red Coat has evolved
from being the british
infantryman's ordinary
uniform to solely being used
for ceremonial purposes**



**Soldiers of the King's Regiment
(Liverpool), 1891**

No historical basis can be found for the suggestion that the colour red was favoured because of the supposedly demoralising effect of blood stains on a uniform of a lighter colour.

