

## Clothing and Dress in Egypt

- I. Plain garments were made primarily from linen (flax) and sometimes wool and draped around the body with the embellishment of elaborate costume jewelry.
- II. Clothing changed with the periods
  - A. Pre New Kingdom
    1. Men wore a kilt which was worn just above the knee. It wrapped around the body and tied at the waist in a knot.
    2. Women wore a sheath dress draped from the chest to the ankle. (Later a tube like dress with straps and fancy material)
  - B. New Kingdom
    1. Men usually wore a short underkilt and over that a long heavily pleated skirt, knotted at the hip with a fringed sash. Also they wore a short, wide cape covering the upper part of their body, hanging from the shoulders.
    2. Women's dresses became more elegant. The sheath dress was the undergarment with a heavily pleated, fringed robe on top called a "Kalisiris."
  - C. Usually they were barefoot, occasionally they would wear sandals. (But would remove them in the presence of a superior)
  - D. Because of the heat, both men and women typically shaved their heads with the exception of a small braid in the lower back of their head. Wigs or a hairpiece were worn.
  - E. Both men and women wore jewelry (earrings, bracelets, anklets, rinds an beaded necklaces)
  - F. Cosmetics were important for dress, health and hygiene.
    1. Oils and creams were protection from sun and dry wind
    2. Body Paints- green (malachite) and black ("kohl") for eyes, red ocher for cheeks and lips, henna for hair, hands and feet.