

First Colorado Volunteer Infantry, Company D



Approved Sources List for Uniforms and Equipage

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Purpose Statement

In order to achieve the highest standards of excellence in historic portrayal and interpretation, the First Colorado Volunteer Infantry, Company D expects all new and existing members to abide by minimally accepted standards at all times. It is expected that new members should acquire "Minimum Required" items within the first year of membership in the organization.

A Note to New Recruits

As it can be an overwhelming proposition to get started with this hobby, I would like to say a few words as you embark.

1. Find someone in the group that you get along with and that has a killer impression. Stick to them like glue. They will become your best resource.
2. Buy your shoes and weapon first, as these are the hardest items to get loaned to you.
3. Buy the Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, Hardtack & Coffee (John D. Billings,) and Corporal Si Klegg and His Pard as your first resources. These will lay a firm foundation for you to build on.
4. Don't buy anything without checking with someone! It is very tempting to buy the "Sutler Row" stuff, but you will end up buying the good stuff later, wasting a lot of money. I speak from experience – don't buy stuff twice!

Editor's Note

The editor wishes to extend sincere thanks to the following for assistance with this project.
The Authentic – Campaigner (Paul Calloway)

The Holmes' Brigade
The Mudsills
The 33rd Wisconsin Volunteers (especially John Wedeward)

Minimum Required Uniform Clothing

Note: We provide a list of all suppliers mentioned with their contact details on page 9 under 'Sources'.

A. Four Button Fatigue Blouse

Fatigue blouses (sometimes known as "sack coats") of the period were made in four sizes, with the majority being lined.

1. Wambaugh, White & Co.
2. Chris Daley

B. Enlisted Federal Foot Trowsers

Several contract patterns are appropriate to the First Colorado. They include, but are not limited to, Shuylkill Arsenal, JT Martin, and Deering patterns. They were issued in four sizes only.

1. Chris Sullivan
2. Chris Daley

C. Pattern 1858 Cap ("Forage" Cap)

Headgear is one of the first things that the public will notice on a soldier. If you have to skip somewhere, on your head is NOT the place.

1. Chris Semancik
2. Dirty Billy's

D. Bootees or Boots

The pattern of 1858 Jefferson Bootee was the standard issue footwear of the Infantry soldier.

1. Missouri Boot & Shoe (Robert Serio)
2. Mattimore Harness

E. Shirt (Civilian or Issue)

Shirts of the period were generally hand-sewn. Buttonholes were only-hand sewn. Anything else is not period correct.

1. Wambaugh, White & Co.
2. Carter and Jasper Mercantile

F. Stockings

1. Karin Timour
2. Ezra Barnhouse

Minimum Required Leather Accouterments

A. Waist Belt

An early war waistbelt including a leather keeper and "puppy paw" belt plate is most appropriate for the impression of the First Colorado. Waxed leather or buff leather is fine, as there is no clear evidence as to what the First Colorado was issued.

1. Missouri Boot & Shoe (Robert Serio)
2. C & D Jarnigan

B. Cartridge Box and Box Belt (Sling)

Early war boxes generally were sewn as opposed to riveted in their construction (rivets were an expediency measure during the war). Slings can be of waxed or buff leather.

1. Missouri Boot & Shoe (Robert Serio)
2. C & D Jarnigan (post 1999 manufacture)

C. Cap Box

Early war cap pouches, like cartridge boxes, were sewn and not riveted.

1. Missouri Boot and Shoe (Robert Serio)
2. Duvall Leatherwork
3. C & D Jarnigan (post 1999 manufacture)

D. Bayonet Scabbard

An early war (two rivet) Gaylord pattern scabbard is best suited to the impression of the First Colorado.

1. Missouri Boot and Shoe (Bob Serio)
2. Duvall Leatherwork

E. Box, Belt & Sling Plates

Early war belt plates were of the "puppy paw" design.

1. C & D Jarnagin

Minimum Required Field Equipage

A. Woolen Blanket

Two types of blankets are acceptable to the impression of the First Colorado. The first is the standard issue blanket of gray wool with black end stripes and a triple-chain stitched "US" in the center. The second is the "emergency issue" blanket of brown "shoddy" wool with a single chain stitched "US" in the center.

1. Orchard Hill Sutlery (Keagy/Noble Blanket)
2. EJ Thomas Sutler

B. Rubber Spread ("Gum" Blanket)

Civil War period gum blankets had small rivets. There is currently no absolutely authentic replica of this item as the true vulcanization process is costly, hazardous, and time consuming. The following are acceptable alternatives.

1. Nick Sekela
2. C & D Jarnagin
3. Fall Creek Sutlery

C. Shelter Half

Early war shelter halves had hand sewn button holes as did all shelter halves of the period. In addition, they had bone button rather than paper-backed tin buttons. Material should be 8oz. duck canvas. Unfortunately, this material was not available in significant quantities until later in the war. Shelters were probably made of cotton drill or linen canvas.

1. Haversack Depot (Phil Cavanaugh)
Excellent cotton drill 2 or 3 piece halves.
2. EJ Thomas Sutler

D. Canteen / Sling

Purchase the oblate spheroid "smoothside" only. Do not buy the "bullseye" canteen, as the First Colorado would not have carried this item. Without putting a lot of extra work into a proper canteen for the First Colorado, Orchard Hill is the only choice. Buy the "campaigner" canteen and purchase a leather sling to replace cotton drill sling.

1. Orchard Hill Sutlery (Canteen)
2. Dell's Leather Works (Leather Canteen sling. Specify RUSSET leather.)
3. Missouri Boot & Shoe (Leather Sling)

E. Haversack

Regulation haversacks were generally 11 1/2 inches wide by 11 1/2 inches long with a 45 inch shoulder strap. Additionally, all interior seams were flat felled with a steel roller buckle and linseed oil finish over black paint. Liner bag was of drill with three hand worked button holes.

1. The Haversack Depot (Phil Cavanaugh)
2. EJ Thomas Sutler

F. Eating Utensils

Period patterns including either two, three, or four tined forks are still out there. Search for plain wood or bone handles on the knife and fork. Spoons of pressed metal steel (not cast) with a "fiddle-back" handle feature are most desirable. Either tablespoon or teaspoon size is correct. Period price is often the same as reproductions!

1. Antique stores and flea markets
2. Carter and Jasper Mercantile

G. Tin Dipper (Cup).

1. Wendy Osman
2. Ezra Barnhouse

H. Plate

A period correct plate or canteen half are both acceptable to the impression of the First Colorado.

1. C & D Jarnagin
2. Wendy Osman

Minimum Required Weapon &c.

Buy one. The model 1855 ("type I" or "type II") should be your first choice.

A. Rifle-Musket: Model of 1855

Springfield (.58 cal)

This was the issue weapon for the First Colorado Volunteers. Buy this weapon if at all possible. The most economical way to get one is to have Tim Oakes retrofit the Euroarms 1861 Springfield reproduction for you. There are two types of the model 1855, but either will work just fine (the basic differences are in the nosecap, front sight, and cap box in the stock).

1. S&S Firearms
2. John G. Zimmerman
3. Lodgewood Manufacturing

B. Rifle-Musket: Model of 1861

Springfield (.58 cal)

Euroarms: Carried by most sutlers, this product features one-piece walnut stock, correct lock and barrel. All stampings on barrel, lock, barrel bands, and tang of butt-plate. Correct "swell" to ramrod, although not as good as the originals. Modern stampings on barrel and trigger guard tang should be filed off.

1. Lodgewood Manufacturing
2. John G. Zimmerman
3. S&S Firearms

C. Musket: Model of 1842 (.69 cal)

Not common, but nice to see a few in the ranks.

1. S&S Firearms
2. Lodgewood Mfg
3. John G. Zimmerman

D. Bayonet

Reproduction bayonets should be fitted to your weapon. This means bring your Springfield along when you buy your bayonet; may require some filing. Original bayonets are encouraged, but Italian made reproductions are acceptable as well. Avoid anything manufactured in India or Pakistan!!!

1. Lodgewood Manufacturing (original bayonets)
2. Gun Shows / Antique Shops (original bayonets)

E. Musket Sling

Issue slings were made of russet buff leather.

1. Duvall Leatherwork
2. Missouri Boot & Shoe (Robert Serio)

G. Cleaning Rod, Cone, Cone Pick, Cone Wrench & Wiper

1. Lodgewood Manufacturing Company
2. S&S Firearms
3. Dixie Gun Works

- 1.
- 2.

Issue Items Not Required

A. Knapsack (Federal double bag)

1. Missouri Boot & Shoe (Robert Serio)
2. LD Haning & Co.

B. Pattern of 1858 Dress Hat (Enlisted)

Period correct Dress Hat includes correct ribbon, sweatband, stitching, shellac stiffening and label.

1. Tim Bender
2. Dirty Billy's

C. Drawers

As issued, military pattern was of cotton flannel with hand-felled seams.

1. Wambaugh, White & Co.
2. Chris Daley

D. Foot Pattern Great Coat

1. Chris Daley
2. County Cloth (Kits only)
3. Morris Clothiers

E. Uniform Coat or "Frock Coat"

1. Nick Sekela
2. Trans-Mississippi Depot Co.

Non-Issue Items

A. Bible

1. Chaplain Alan Farley (R.M.J.C)
2. Flea markets/Ebay

B. Civilian or "Slouch" Hats

1. Tim Bender
2. Dirty Billy's
3. Clearwater Hat Company

C. Braces (Suspenders)

Trousers were issued with only four buttons for braces. So generally the braces had only a one button lead from each brace.

1. Corner Clothiers
2. Trans-Mississippi Depot Co.

D. Coffee Boiler

1. Carter & Jasper

E. Hardtack Crackers

1. G.H. Bent and Company

F. Chevrons

1. Chris Daley

G. Vests

1. Chris Daley
2. Corner Clothiers

H. Cravat

1. Wendy Osman
2. Ezra Barnhouse

I. Paper Goods & Stationary

1. Sullivan Press

J. Pencils

1. The Rambling Irishman

K. Pipes

1. Ezra Barnhouse

L. Lye Soap

1. Missouri Soap & Bath

M. Pocket Watches

CW period pocket watches were big. Today's reproductions are too small and are not key wound. No known source for an authentic reproduction. Vendors listed deal with originals.

1. Michael D. Clark

N. Yard Goods & Twill Tape

1. County Cloth

O. Logwood Dyed Linen Thread

1. Kathleen B. Smith

P. Green Coffee

1. Blue Heron Mercantile

Q. Parched Corn

1. Blue Heron Mercantile

R. English Block Tea

1. Cranes Post

S. Can Labels

1. Ezra Barnhouse

T. Nails

1. Tremont Nail Company

U. Camp Kettles

1. Wendy Osman

V. Bottles

1. Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill

W. Glass Storage Jars

1. William and Mary

X. Hardtack Cracker Box

1. G.H. Bent and Company

Y. Baseballs

1. Jay Ferguson

Z. Playing Cards

1. The Rambling Irishman

Even more none-issue items...**Ledger Books**

1. Sullivan Press

Hemp Rope

1. Blue Heron Mercantile

Spectacles

1. The Grand Spectacle

Fire Irons

1. Upper Mississippi Valley Mercantile Company

Housewife

1. Ezra Barnhouse

Wallet

1. Ezra Barnhouse

Fifes & Drums

1. Cooperman Drum Company
2. Heritage Drum Company

Reference Material

A. Drill

1. *Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics* (J.B. Lippincott & CO. 1861) Reproduction available from Invictus.
2. Ken Mink - Three volume pocket/field version of *Casey's Infantry Tactics*. Each volume is bound in green covers with embossed eagles, the title and eagles on the spines are embossed in gold. They are complete with all foldouts.
3. Dom Dal Bello -Two manuals that every re-enactor should own. Covers parade, inspection and basic evolutions of the Infantry Battalion, and instructions for guards and pickets (These are NOT reproductions of period manuals.)
4. www.usregulars.com - Another great source for drill, and it's free of charge.

B. Impression Guide Books

1. Calvin Kinzer - *The Hardcracker Handbook*
A very complete guide for the reenactor.
2. August V. Kautz – *The 1865 Customs of Service*
3. *Columbia Rifles Research Compendium* – every new recruit should start with this compendium

C. First Colorado Volunteer Infantry History

Primary Sources:

1. Ovando J. Hollister – *Boldly They Rode*
A fascinating, though biased account of someone who was there. Hard to find, but worth the money.
2. Romine H. Ostrander – *This Soldier Life: The Diaries of Romine H. Ostrander, 1863 and 1865, in Colorado Territory*
Although Ostrander was in the 1st Colorado Cavalry, this book gives great insight into the Colorado Territory during the Civil War.
3. Nolie Mumey – *Bloody trails Along the Rio Grande: The Diary of Alonzo Ferdinand Ickis*. A wonderful diary account of a member of the First Colorado (Company B).

Secondary Sources:

1. William C. Whitford – *The Battle of Glorieta Pass: The Colorado Volunteers in the Civil War*
Another good account. Uses many sources from First Colorado veterans. Includes good detail and some good period photos.

2. Don E. Alberts – *The Battle of Glorieta: Union Victory in the West*

A very well documented and researched work – highly recommended.

3. Thomas S. Edrington & John Taylor – *The Battle of Glorieta Pass: A Gettysburg in the West*

Published about the same time as Albert's work, but not as well researched. Also shows a hint of Southern bias. Good maps.

4. Duane A. Smith - *The Birth of Colorado: A Civil War Perspective*. A personal favorite! Gives a real flavor for the Colorado Territory during the Civil War. A primer that everyone with the First Colorado should read.

D. General Infantry Impression

Primary Sources:

1. John D. Billings – *Hardtack & Coffee*
The classic. Humorous & informative. Although the focus is the Eastern Theater, the information is priceless. This work is made even better by Charles H. Reed's illustrations. This is the first primary source a new recruit should purchase.
2. Wilbur F. Hinman – *Corporal Si Klegg & His Pard*

Another classic. Although a fictional account, Hinman's book does a great job of describing what army life in the Western theatre was all about. Long live Company Q!

3. Stillwell, Leander – *The Story of a Common Soldier*

An excellent primary source for a Western Theater impression.

Secondary Sources:

1. Bell I. Wiley – *The Life of Billy Yank: The Common Soldier of the Union*

The definitive secondary work on the life of a soldier. Full of primary source excerpts to back a substantial body of research.

2. Time-Life Books – *Echoes of Glory: Arms & Equipment of the Union*

Although the text of this book is riddled with inaccuracies, the pictures are worth the price. This is an excellent reference work.

E. Web Resources

Used Uniform & Equipage / Advice & "how to"

1. www.authentic-campaigner.com
2. www.cwreenactors.com

Make sure to watch the "Buy Sell & Trade" Forum on Authentic-Campaigner for some great deals on clothing and gear.

Sources

Blue Heron Mercantile-
www.blueheronmercantile.com
765-474-8426

C&D Jarnagin-
www.jarnaginco.com
662-287-4977

Carter & Jasper Mercantile-
www.carterandjasper.com

Chris Daley-
www.cjdaley.com

Chris Semancik-
<http://www.geocities.com/trulyrural1/cap.html>
Clearwater Hat Company
<http://www.clearwaterhats.com/>

Cooperman Drum Co.
www.cooperman.com
802-463-9750

Corner Clothiers
<http://www.cornerclothiers.com>

Country Cloth-
www.crchlds.com

Dell's Leatherworks-
www.dellsleatherworks.com
846-339-4916

Dirty Billy's Hats-
www.dirtybillyshats.com
717-334-3200

Dixie Gunworks-
www.dixiegunworks.com
731-885-0700

Duvall Leatherwork-

www.duvallleatherwork.com
570-283-9297

EJ Thomas Sutler-
www.ejtmercantile.com
215-500-1979

Ezra Barnhouse Goods-
www.ezrabarnhousegoods.com
937-349-3571

Fall Creek Sutlery-
www.fcsutler.com
765-482-1861

GH Bent & Co.
www.bentscookiefactory.com
617-698-5945

Haversack Depot-
www.haversackdepot.com
830-620-5192

John G. Zimmerman-
www.edsmart.com
304-535-2558

Karin Timour
Email- ktimour@aol.com

LD Haning & Co.
www.ldhaning.com
614-837-5475
LodgeWood Mfg-
www.lodgewood.com
262-473-5444

Mattimore Harness
<http://www.civilwarboots.com/>
307-745-8460

Missouri Boot & Shoe-

www.missouribootandshoe.com
417-451-6100

Missouri Soap & Bath-
www.mosoap.com
636-528-5077

Morris Clothiers-
www.morris-clothiers.com
330-498-0868

Nick Sekela-
www.njsekela.com
973-626-3051

Orchard Hill Sutlery
www.orchardhillsutlery.com

Robert Land-
<http://www.robertlandhistoricsshoes.com>

S&S Firearms-
www.ssfirearms.com
718-497-1100

Sullivan Press-
www.sullivanpress.com

The Grand Spectacle-
www.thegrandspectacle.com
607-732-7500

The Rambling Irishman-
www.theramblingirishman.com
615-417-9189

The Shaker Village of PH-
www.shakervillageky.org
800-734-5611

Tim Bender-
www.benderhats.com
610-582-0327

**Trans-Mississippi Depot
Co.**
www.trans-mississippi.com
928-649-1395

**Upper Mississippi Valley
Merc.**
www.umvmco.com
563-320-5330

Wendy Osman-
Email-
foragecaps@earthlink.net
612-227-5227

Whambaugh, White & Co
www.wwandcompany.com
517-303-3609