

# HOW DO I CHOOSE MY TARTAN?

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# Here to help

Some of the questions we're commonly asked are "Which tartan can I choose for my kilt based on my name?" - "I don't have a clan, so which tartans are appropriate for me to wear?"- "I'm not Scottish at all, so can I wear a Tartan".

In this guide, we'll explain a bit about tartan backgrounds and some of the options.

Selecting a tartan can be bewildering at first sight. But choosing is easy and fun once you know how. We suggest you first decide on the following :





# Background?

Do you want a tartan associated with your family background, or do you care more about the colours? If the family link is important to you, then simply contact us for help in finding your specific family or clan tartan and also what to do if no exact match exists.

Otherwise, our advice is explore! There are thousands of choices to browse, so you'll soon see ones you like.





# Weight?

What weight of material do you want? Once you've decided whether you want the most common medium weight wool, or would prefer perhaps the heavy material, you will have simplified your choice greatly. Most mills stock only a selection of tartans in only some weights. So if your heart is set on a special pattern you may have to be flexible on weight. But in general we suggest choosing the ideal weight first, and if need be find another pattern available in that weight for you.



# Colour?

Is the exact shade important to you, for example to match another garment or the bridal party? If so, it is best to find out which weaving mill manufactured that other fabric, as the “same” tartan produced by two different mills can vary greatly. The reason is historical, as colours and ‘thread counts’ were often only loosely defined. Also, just like paints and wallpapers, one batch can be different to the next. And computer monitors seldom display perfectly. So we strongly advise you order a swatch of the tartan/s you like, before having your kilt made, to check the actual colour.





# Have fun!

Beyond that, choosing a tartan is largely a matter of taste. Many clan or family tartans are available in a range of colourways, which are commonly grouped into descriptions such as: Modern; Ancient, Muted or Hunting and Dress. Which you choose is entirely down to your preference.

*At our mills over 500 varieties of tartan are woven every year.*

*As a business, we only ever use tartan that has been made in Scotland with quality wool, then produced in the traditional way.*



# Still not sure?

Our team loves making sure our customers look and feel great in their highland outfits. If you still have questions, please get in touch - we'd be happy to help.

For more information, access to our full range of accessories or simply to receive our other free guides please contact us directly on:

[customerservices@lcmsgroup.com](mailto:customerservices@lcmsgroup.com)

Guides also available on:

- How to measure up
- Which sporran is right for you
- Which is the correct jacket to wear

