

Hackles



The **hackle** is a feather plume that is attached to the headdress. In the British Army and the armies of some Commonwealth countries the hackle is worn by some infantry regiments, especially those designated fusilier regiments and those with Scottish and Northern Irish origins. It was commonly attached to the feather bonnet worn by Highland regiments (now usually only worn by drummers, pipers and bandsmen). The color of the hackle varies from regiment to regiment. A couple examples:



White

Royal Highland Fusiliers
 Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)
 Royal Scots Fusiliers
 Royal Welch Fusiliers
 Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
 Royal Welsh
 Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders
 Gordon Highlanders
 Seaforth Highlanders

Royal Regiment of Fusiliers
 Royal Northumberland Fusiliers



Blue over White

King's Own Fusiliers



Red over White



St. Patrick's Blue

Irish Guards
 The Queen's UOTC
 London Irish Rifles



Blackcock Pipers Hackle

Royal Scots pipers
Gordon Highlanders pipers
Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders pipers
KOSB pipers
Royal Regiment of Scotland

The color of the hackle in many instances has a history. However, the origin of the Royal Scots Borderers (1 SCOTS) has no apparent precedent. It may be that the black hackle of simulates the black-cock tail feathers originally worn in the 1904 pattern Kilmarnock Bonnet and latterly in the regimental Glengarry Cap by the Royal Scots and King's Own Scottish Borderers, who merged in August 2006 to form 1 SCOTS. Alternatively, it may be a sympathetic gesture to a former Lowland regiment, the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), disbanded in 1968, who wore a black hackle in their rifle green dress Balmoral.



Royal Blue

Highlanders flat blue feather hackle
Cameron Highlanders post 1940
Queens Own Highlanders
The Highlanders
4th Battalion Royal Regiment of Scotland
US Coast Guard Pipe band



Black

Royal Scots Borderers
The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)
Royal Ulster Rifles