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Authenticity

Neck Protection

Neck Protection

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1. Definition and general requirements

1.1 Definition

- Neck protection is the term to describe all historical and adapted protection for neck, shoulders and throat. In buhurt, those protections are mandatory to ensure the safety of competitors.
- Neck protection can be worn upon the aventail or not, depending on the type of protection.

1.2 Neck protection description

Neck protection can be:

- Neck shield : Metal plates that replicate the shape of a heater shield. It is allowed to be worn upon the aventail.
- Lobster tail : Articulated metal plates designed as a lobster tail. It is allowed to be worn upon the aventail.
- Gorget : A gorget is a plate protection that covers the neck, shoulders and throat. It is allowed to be visible and worn with the proper armor set.
- Concealed neck plates : Metal plates directly sewn to the gambeson or the aventail. They must be hidden under the aventail.

1.3 General requirements

All types of neck protection must respect the following requirements :

- Be based on historical sources if they are visible.
- Be concealed if they are not based on historical sources.
- Be firmly attached to prevent any breakage and maintain a high level of protection in any case.
- Any metal part of the neck protection must conform to the Armors and weapons Aesthetics and decorations document.
- Any textile or leather part of the neck protection must conform to the Textiles and Leather document.

1.4 Recommendations

- It is recommended to wear a protection sewn to your gambeson. This protection covers your neck no matter the position of your helmet (bent or twisted during wrestling).
- Protections relying on your aventail can be damaged during fights and may be removed if not firmly attached to the aventail. It is recommended to ensure those protections are well attached and will not be removed easily.

2. Neck shield

2.1 Historical sources and datation

- Miniatures sometimes display a small shield attached to the aventail, mainly during the 14th century. Those shields were supposed to show the heraldry of the wearer. Thus, as neck protection is mandatory in our sport, such neck shields can be allowed to be worn on the aventail.
- They are **approved** for 14th century, Transitional and 15th century armors.



Book of Hours - 1320 - The Netherlands

2.2 Specific requirements

- Neck shield must conform to the general requirements (1.3).
- Neck shield can be worn upon the aventail. It must be firmly attached to the aventail.
- Neck shield must have a shape inspired by the heater shield.
- Neck shield cannot exceed 15x17cm.
- Neck shield can be painted.
- Painted neck shield must respect Armor aspect and decoration rules.

2.3 Examples of **Approved** reproductions



2.4 Examples of **Denied** reproductions



Oversized neck shield, it risks being ripped off during wrestling.



Round shape is not allowed, it must be concealed under the aventail.

Pictures from The Medieval Things ©

3. Lobster tail

3.1 Historical sources and datation

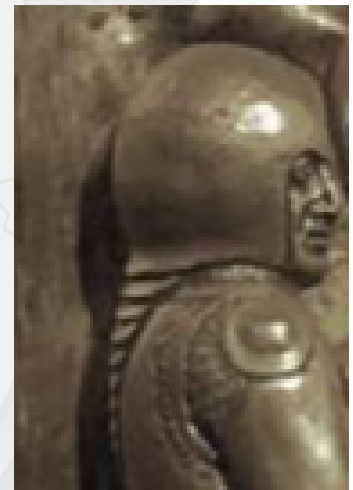
- Lobster tail is a lobster-shape neck protection made of articulated metal plates. It is depicted in manuscript and art from the late 14th century to the 15th century.
- They are **approved** for 14th century, Transitional and 15th century armors.



A



B



C

A: Paduan Bible - 1400 - Italy

B: Le Livre et le vraye hystoire du bon roy Alixandre - 1400/1420 - France

C: Altar of St James, Pistoia - 1380/1400 - Italy

3.2 Specific requirements

- Lobster tail can be worn upon the aventail. It must be firmly attached to the aventail.
- Lobster tail cannot be painted if they are worn upon the aventail.
- Lobster tail must be articulated and consist of at least 3 parts.
- Lobster tail cannot exceed 15 x 25 cm.

3.3 Examples of **Approved** reproductions



Pictures from Gohurt ©

3.4 Examples of **Denied** reproductions



Oversized

Pictures from The Medieval Things ©

4. Gorget

4.1 Historical sources and datation

- A gorget was a type of neck protection worn over the neck, clavicles, and shoulders. It evolved from earlier forms of neck defenses, which often relied on chainmail or padded fabrics like the aventail. By the late 15th century, as plate armor became more refined, the gorget emerged as a key piece of protection for the throat and neck, made primarily from steel plates. Gorgets were most common in the 16th century but evidence exists of gorgets and plate collars.
- They are **denied** for 14th century
- They are **approved** for Transitional armors and 15th century armors



Wade Allen collection - 1510 - Italy

4.2 Specific requirements

- Gorget must conform to the general requirements (1.3)
- Gorget must be constructed from plates.
- Gorget must cover the clavicles and back of the neck. The throat should have a low profile, be articulated or otherwise fitted in such a way that it doesn't choke the wearer when their head is tilted forward.
- Gorget must be worn with appropriate armor styles and match historical sources in function and appearance.

4.3 Examples of **Approved** reproductions



Pictures from The Medieval Things ©



5. Concealed neck plates

5.1 Historical sources and datation

- There are no historical sources nor datation for such armor elements. Nevertheless, it is **approved** to reinforce your neck armor with concealed plates.

5.2 Specific requirements

- Concealed neck plates must conform to the general requirements (1.3)
- Concealed neck plates must be made of metal.
- Concealed neck plates must be hidden under the aventail.
- Concealed neck plates must be firmly attached.
- Edges of concealed neck plates must be smooth with no sharp edges.
- It is recommended to paint concealed neck plates with anti rust paint. Such paint must be a neutral color (grey, black) and do not interfere with the aesthetic of the armor.

5.3 Examples of **Approved** reproductions



Pictures from Medieval Extreme ©

5.4 Examples of **Denied** reproductions



Metal plates visible

Pictures from The Medieval Things ©



6. Change log

Below, we will keep track of all the changes made over the lifetime of this document. This way, all our members can see how the documents are changing over time.

December-2024: -Add
Document has been created

