

Ukrainian Costumes

*Kiev
Hutzul*



*Ukrainian Youth League of North America
Foundation, Inc.*

Kiev and Hutzul

Costumes



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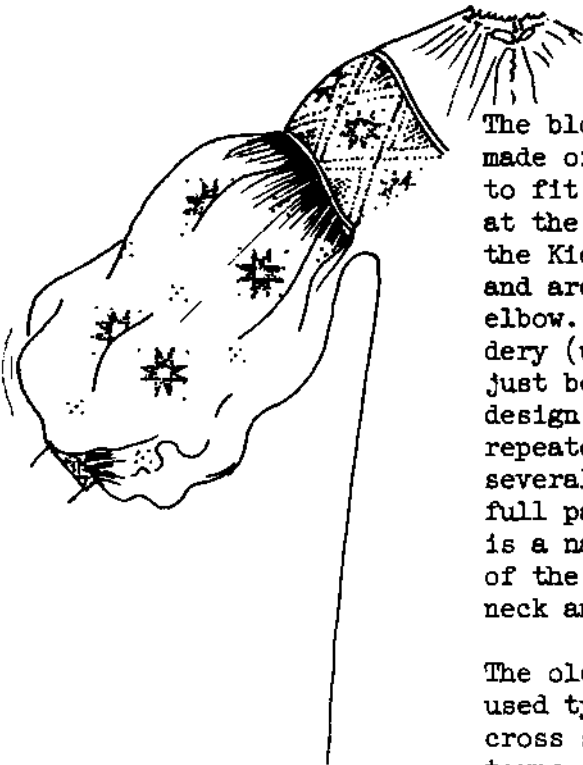
FOREWORD

The prime concern of the Foundation in publishing this brochure is for the proper presentation of Ukrainian costumes before the general American public. Authenticity in the public display of Ukrainian costumes is of the utmost importance in creating the proper impression.

The information for the Kiev and Hutzul costumes was compiled with the cooperation of many interested persons. To all these the Ukrainian Youth League of North America Foundation, Inc. is deeply grateful for the time and suggestions given in making the costume booklet possible. Wholehearted thanks are especially extended to Mrs. Stephania Pushkar, Vice-President of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Inc., and Mrs. Burachynska, Editor of "Our Life", for their assistance in this undertaking.

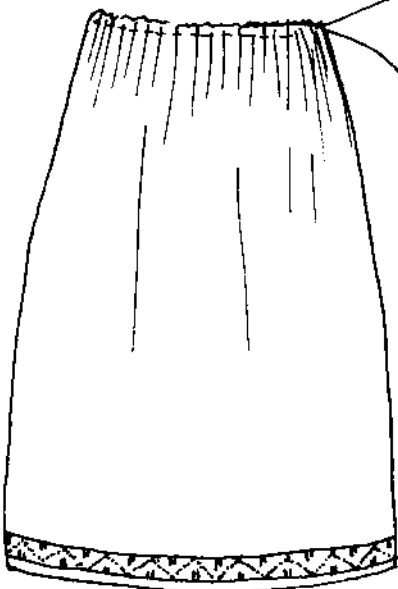


SOROCHKA



The blouse, or sorochka, is made of white linen. It is cut to fit loosely and is gathered at the neck. The sleeves for the Kiev blouse are quite full and are worn pushed up to the elbow. A wide band of embroidery (ustavka) trims the sleeve just below the shoulder. The design may also be scattered or repeated in long vertical or several diagonal strips on the full part of the sleeve. There is a narrow band of embroidery of the same design around the neck and wrists.

The oldest and most commonly used type of embroidery is the cross stitch developed into patterns of stylized floral or geometric design. Floral and geometric patterns should never be combined on the same blouse. Only black and red embroidery is used on the sorochka for the Kiev area.



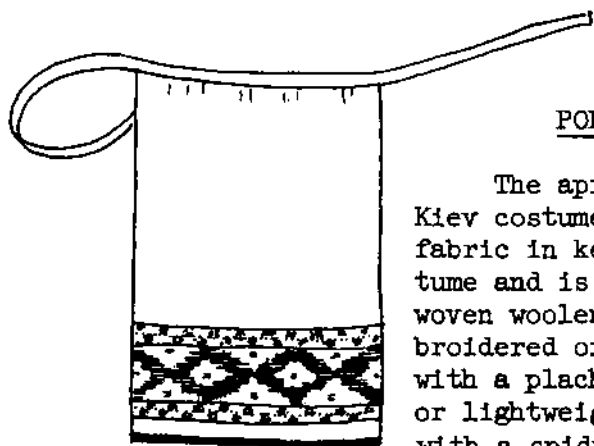
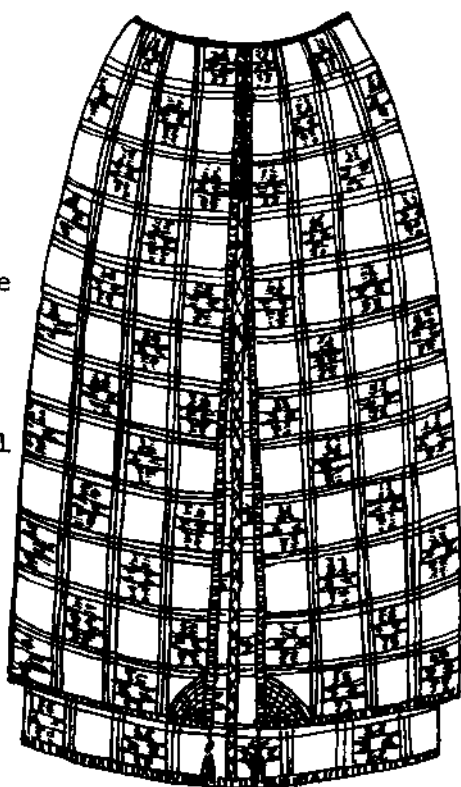
PIDTYCHKA

When the sorochka is long, the bottom part of it forms the pidtychka (underskirt); but when the sorochka is not full-length, a plain white linen pidtychka is worn under the skirt. It is gathered on a band at the waist and is long enough to cover the tops of the choboty. A border of embroidery, $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 inches wide, is at the hem line.

PLACHTA

The background of the plachta, which is woven from wool, is usually red (but can be another color, for example, blue or black) with eight-pointed stars of different colors worked diagonally from the back seam.

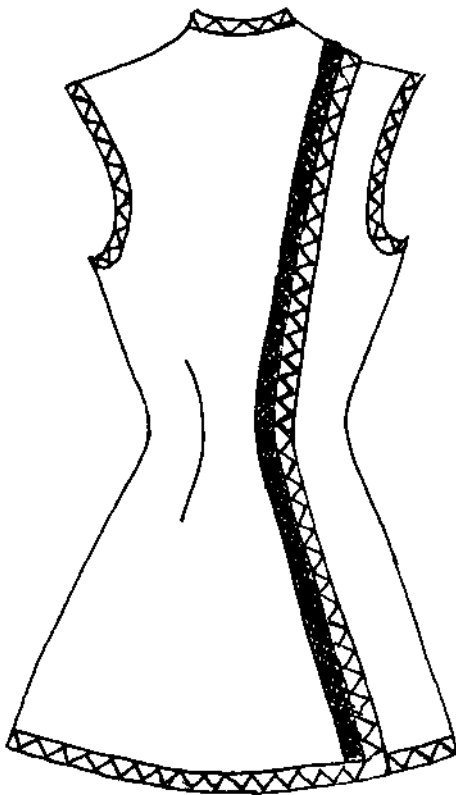
The plachta is actually a double overskirt, the result of folding the rectangle in half. The outer skirt is slit in the back to within three or four inches of the waist, causing it to fall freely while the underpart of the plachta remains close to the pidtychka (underskirt). A decorative touch is the adding of pompoms to the corners.



POPEREDNITSA

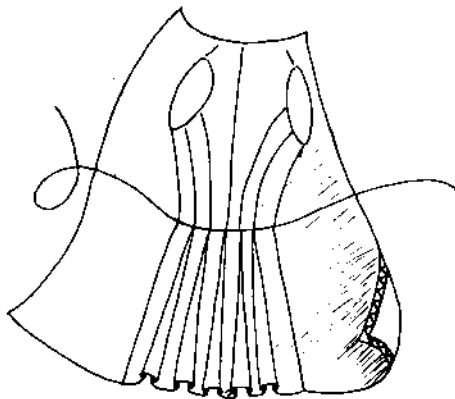
The apron (zapaska) for the Kiev costume is made of colored fabric in keeping with the costume and is never fringed. A woven woolen apron with an embroidered or woven design is used with a plachta. An apron of silk or lightweight material is worn with a spidnychka (skirt). The latter apron is trimmed with rick-rack, braid and ribbons.

KORSETKA



The korsetka, or jacket, is made of various materials, but always in a subdued primary color. Wool, silk or other materials without a sheen may be used. The best and most widely used colors are dark red, dark green, blue and black. It is trimmed with a narrow border of braid around the neck, the arms, the hem and down the front. The korsetka may have a side opening which starts at the left shoulder or it may open down the center--either way, it should fit snugly at the waist. Three, five or seven pleats in the back emphasize the fit. The korsetka is kept simple to complement the blouse. Beads, sequins or embroidery are never used on a korsetka.

SPIDNYCHKA



The spidnychka, or skirt, may be used in place of a plachta and should be full with more gathers to the rear. About two yards of lightweight wool, plain or challis print, are required and the material should either match or contrast the korsetka. The spidnychka is finished off at the bottom (about 3" of the edge) by zubchiky of complementary color.

KRAYKA

The krayka, also called the poyas, is a long, narrow sash woven of colored wool. It is wrapped several times around the waist to hold the plachta and the zapaska in place.



Note! The krayka is not absolutely necessary in the costume because of the korsetka which covers the waist.

KORALI

Red coral beads (korali) are worn as an indication of a girl's wealth--the more strands of coral, the greater her wealth. Sometimes a dukat (a metal coin) or a cross is worn with the korali.



CHOBOTY

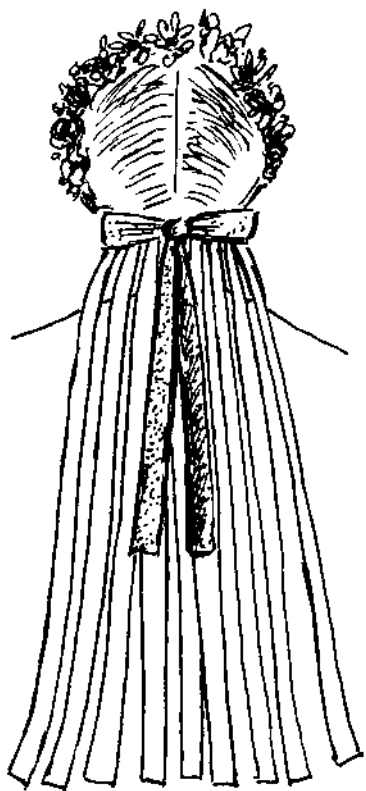
Boots are made of soft pliable leather and their height reaches the point just beyond mid-calf level.





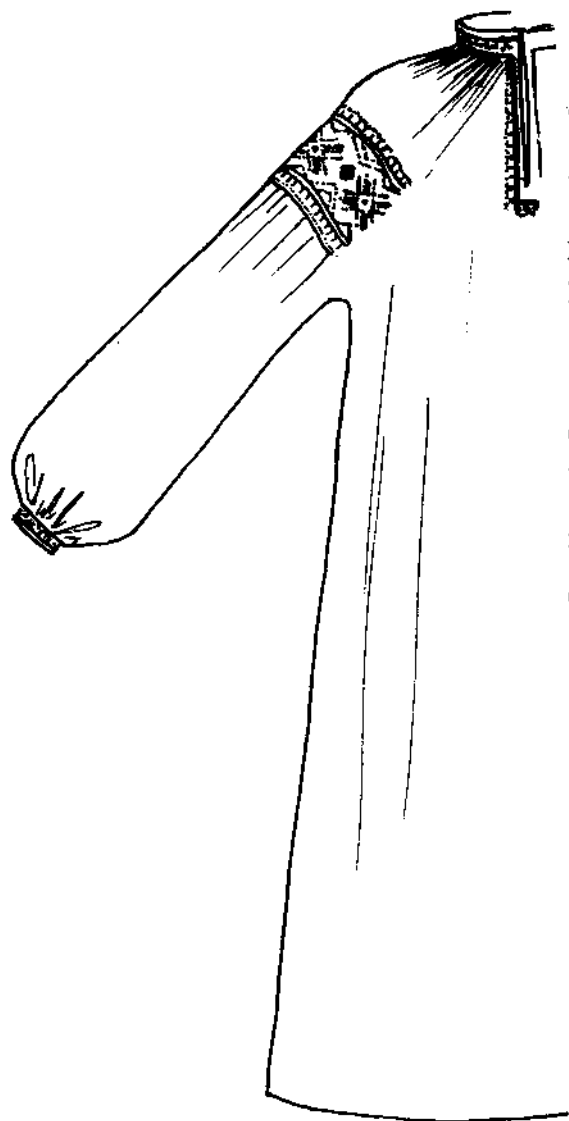
VINOK

The vinok, or headpiece, should be made in two parts. First, the pidstrechnyk--a band of ribbons placed one on top of each other with a bit of the color of each showing--lies flat on the hair, a little forward and tied back. Then the vinok--a tiara of daisies, poppies, and other small field flowers braided together--is placed over the pidstrechnyk leaving part of it visible. A band (either ribbon or elastic) attached to both ends of the tiara will hold the wreath in place. At least a dozen brightly colored ribbons (approximately fingertip length and $1\frac{1}{2}$ " to 2" wide) should be attached to a ribbon or the elastic in the back of the headpiece where they should remain and not brought forward.



Hutzul





SOROCHKA

The blouse, or sorochnka, is made of white linen with a band of embroidery (ustavka) across the upper arm and a narrow band around the neck and on both sides of the front opening of the blouse. Scarlet is the dominating color in the embroidery. The ustavka design is worked in a weaving stitch (nyz) and consists of geometrical patterns.

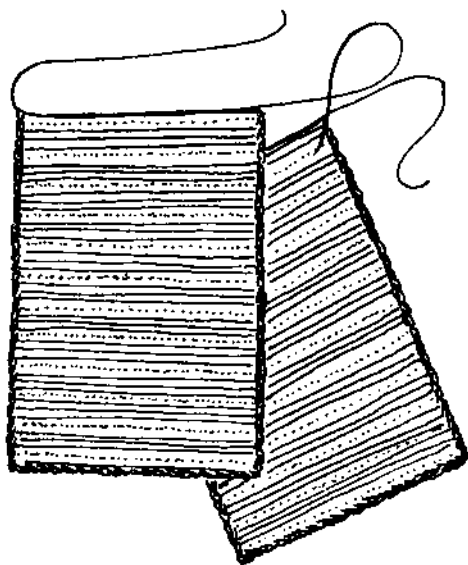
The pattern of the Hutzul sorochnka is the same as in the Kiev costume with the exception that the sleeves are not as full.

PIDTYCHKA

When the sorochnka is long, the bottom part of it forms the pidtychka (underskirt); should the sorochnka not be full-length, then a plain white linen pidtychka is worn under the zapasky (skirt "aprons"). It is gathered by a drawstring at the waist.

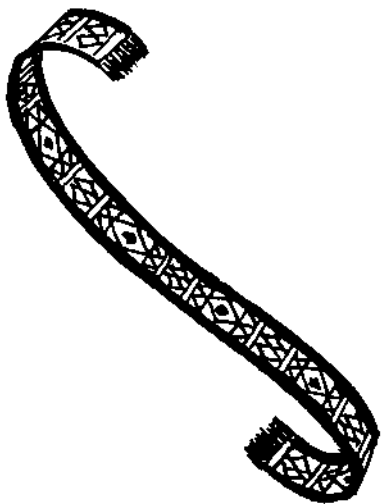
ZAPASKY

The zapasky are two panels or "aprons" woven of red wool and interwoven with gold threads. The back skirt apron is about one inch longer than the front skirt apron. Tapes are sewn to the tops of the zapasky, and it is with these that they are tied around the waist. The back panel is put on first and tied in front. The front panel overlaps it on both sides at the hips and is tied behind.



KRAYKA

The krayka, or sash, is a long narrow band woven of colored wool. It is wrapped around the waist several times and holds the zapasky in place. The ends of the krayka are tucked below the sash on both sides of the waist. The stripped ends are just visible - they should never hang below the hip.



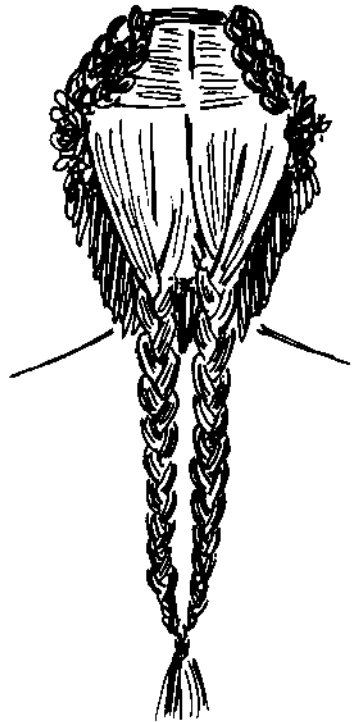
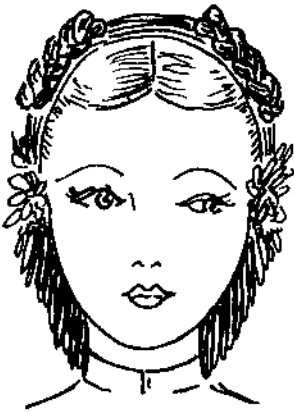
NAMYSTO KORALI

A necklace of red coral beads as well as coins, medallions and sometimes an engraved brass cross. Again, like her sisters from Kiev, the more strands of coral a girl has, the greater her wealth.



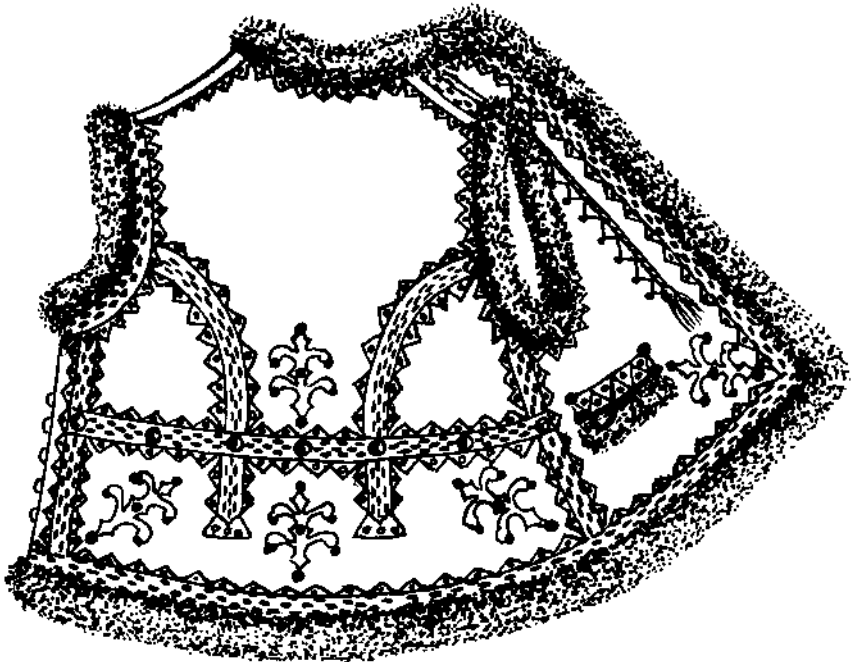
UPLITKY

The uplitky, of colored plaited wool strands and ornaments, encircles the head and is intricately braided with the hair in back of the head. A simpler version of this headband is the chiltse, which is a narrow band of colored wool that is tied under the hair in back. Clusters of woolen pompoms or flowers are attached to the headband over the ears.

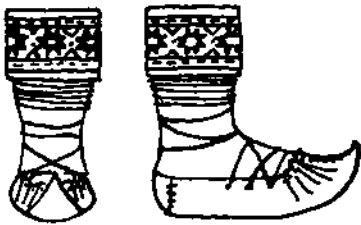


KIPTAR

The kiptar (sleeveless jacket) is made of sheepskin with the fur worn toward the edges and trimmed with black fur along the edges. The kiptar is decorated with strips of colored leather cut in a "toothed" pattern and adorned with brass rivets.

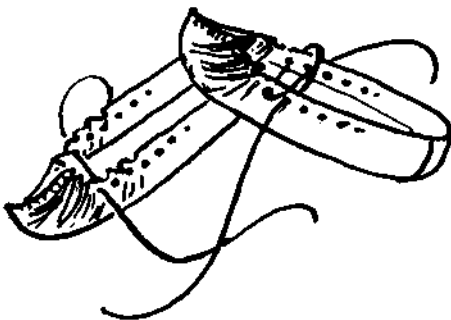


KAPCHURI



The kapchuri are heavy woolen socks cuffed at mid calf with a woven geometric design. These are usually dark red (maroon or wine color.)

POSTOLY



The postoly, or moccasins, are made of sturdy but pliable leather. Cut in rectangular pieces, they are gathered to a point in front and laced together in back with leather strips. Woolen strings are used to hold the postoly on the feet and are laced across the instep and around the ankles.

