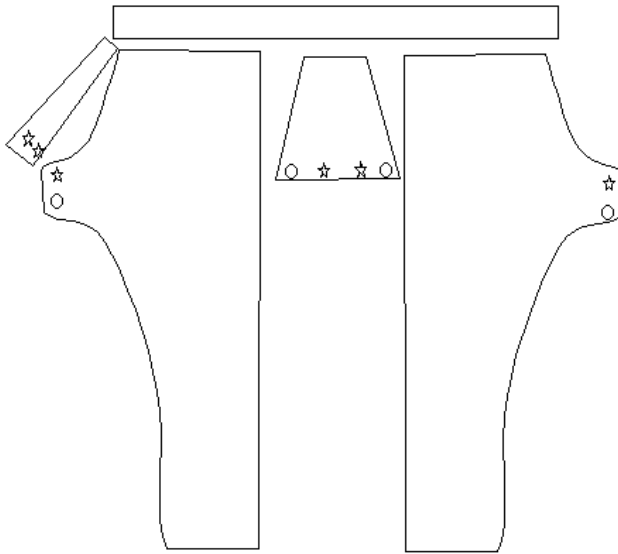


# Authentieke Viking broeken

[http://bjornsson.crosswinds.net/sca/isabel\\_as/mens-garb/mens-garb.htm](http://bjornsson.crosswinds.net/sca/isabel_as/mens-garb/mens-garb.htm)

There is not much evidence remaining for the Viking age trousers. We believe that the trousers in the Viking age were of two main types, the tight fitting trousers, and the very loose fitting ballon-type trousers. Two relatively intact finds are from Thorsbjerg and Damendorf. Both of these trousers are of the tight fitting variety.

## ***Thorsbjerg Trousers: Migration Era Denmark***



- The circles and the stars on the diagram help show how the trousers are sewn together. The design allows a great deal of space in the crotch and seat, making them very comfortable when sitting on the ground or riding a horse.
- These had belt loops along the top of the garment along the waist band.
- These also had attached feet like children's pajamas, that I did not show here.
- They look very strange once sewn together; they do not lay

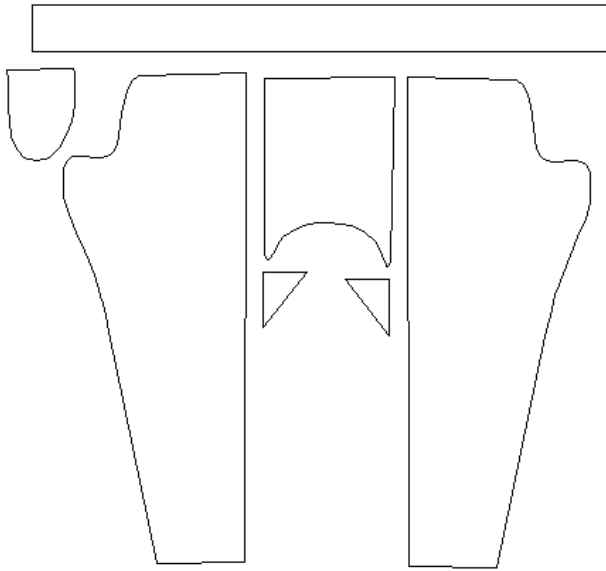
flat. They look quite good when worn.

- The waistband has belt loops sewn into it, and was then designed to be turned down to conceal the belt material. Thus, a rope belt with belt loops or a drawstring would be suitable to tighten these.
- The construction of these is such that, with one extra piece of fabric, a concealed fly opening can be included. There are suggestions by archeologists that the crotch piece was tied, not sewn, but the documents I have seen do not make this clear.
- These trousers are fairly difficult to make; I recommend that you try the pattern with low-cost material to verify the measurements.
- A similar pair of trousers was found at Daetgen. The Daetgen trousers had a larger, oval crotch piece, but were otherwise similar to these.



(l) Museum reconstructie en (r) foto van het origineel.

## Damendorf Trousers



- These are not as difficult as the Thorsbjerg trousers; there are more pieces, but the lines are more straight and easy to understand.
  - The waistband has belt loops sewn into it, and was then designed to be turned down to conceal the belt material, as with the Thorsbjerg trousers.
  - These trousers are fairly difficult to make; I recommend that you try the pattern with low-cost material to verify the measurements.
- 
- There are suggestions by archeologists that the crotch piece was tied, not sewn, but the documents I have seen do not make this clear.
  - N.B. Dit was het model broek wat Remko het afgelopen weekend aan had.

## Museum reconstructions



## De pofbroek Hedeby Harbour 8<sup>e</sup>-10<sup>e</sup> eeuw.



<http://www.historiska.se/histvarld/eng/drakter/vherre/vherrefr.htm>

[http://users.bigpond.net.au/quarfwa/miklagard/Costume/Rus/Trader/trousers\\_text.htm](http://users.bigpond.net.au/quarfwa/miklagard/Costume/Rus/Trader/trousers_text.htm)

Full breeches gathered at the knee were a widespread fashion in Viking Age Scandinavia and Russia, as known from pictorial evidence such as the Norwegian Oseberg tapestries (Hougen 1940), and Gotland picture stones (Magnusson 1976), and a silver figurine recently excavated near Lund, Sweden (pers. obs., Kulturhistorisk Museum, Lund 1997), and as documented c.950 by the Arab ibn Rustah: '...full trousers of one hundred ells of fabric a pair, and when they put them on, they roll them up to the knees and fasten them there.' (Brøndsted 1965). Fragments of a pair such trousers were recovered from the harbor of Haithabu, and are dated to the 10th century. The remains consist of a wedge-shaped front panel of woolen 'rep' fabric, and parts of the seat and legs, which were made of double layers of crepe-weight wool tabby. The fabric was probably treated by immersion in hot water, causing it to shrink and wrinkle. (Elsner 1988; Hägg 1984; Roesdahl and Wilson 1992; Trott 1988; Wikinger Museum Haithabu, Schleswig: pers. obs. 1994). The front parts of the trousers were dyed red, the rear yellow-green (!).

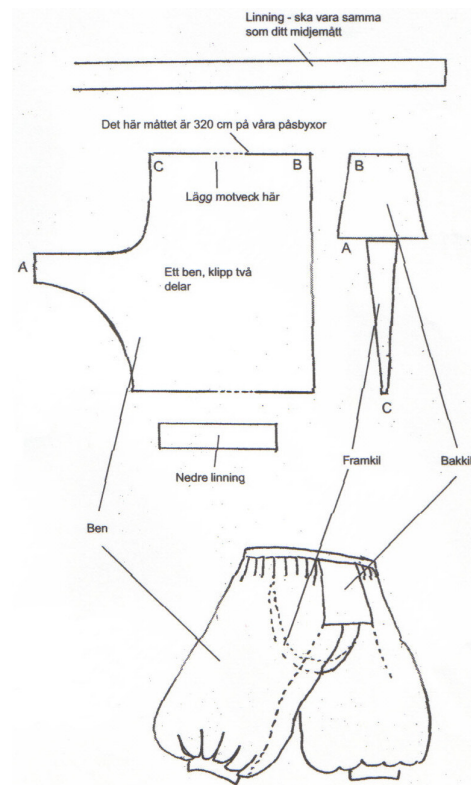
**Reconstruction:** 'Rep' is a tabby woven cloth with a pronounced 'rib' in the warp direction. As such fabric was unobtainable in wool, a plain tabby weave was substituted for the front panel. The legs were made from wool crepe (note however that modern crepes are not tabby weave), dyed to suitable shades. The cut of the garment was based on the small surviving pieces from Hedeby, and on the principles of the well-known trousers from the Roman Iron Age Thorsberg moorfind, Denmark (Hald 1961). Fragmentary finds from the early-mid Viking period show that this pattern was still in use (Hägg 1984; Hundt 1981). A drawstring of tablet woven wool was added.

## Trousers Pattern

<http://www.historiska.se/histvarld/drakter/vikingaboken%20ihopfogad.pdf>

Hedeby harbour, 8th-10th century. Narrow tapered crotch gusset, and parts of legs and seat of a pair of baggy trousers. All pieces are creased, suggesting pleating. Some pieces are red, some green, but no dye analysis has been performed. The crotch panel (H72 A-a, H91A) is

made of a fairly solid fabric, whereas the legs (H72 A b-g) are of thin, loosely woven material (like crepe), possibly folded double (Hägg, 1984).



H72A

crotch (a), and edges of six pieces (b-g) of cloth sewn to it (legs and seat).

- a. crotch, tabby (plain weave), rep (ribbed) on weft. Z/Z spun, 21 x 8 threads/cm, red. Thickness 1 mm.
- b. ?seat, fine crepe-weight tabby (plain weave) thickness 0.5 mm, Z/Z spun 18 x 11-12 threads/cm, green.
- c. front of leg, red, similar to b, Z/Z 25 x 18 threads/cm.
- d. front of leg, red, similar to b, except Z/S 17 x 10-11 threads/cm.
- e. gusset or rear of leg, green, similar to b, except Z/S, 17 x 11 threads/cm.
- f. gusset or rear of leg, green, similar to b, except Z/S, 12-14 x 10 threads/cm.
- g. ?seat reinforcement in the seam between a and b, similar to b, no other details, little remains.

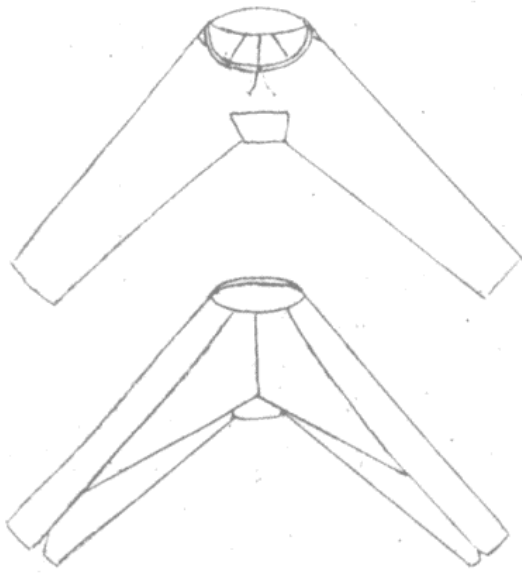
H72B

?part of leg, similar to H72A-c, red, Z/Z 25 x 16-18 threads/cm.

H91A

?upper part of crotch panel H72A-a, fragments of crepe-like material attached to sides.

<http://www.frojel.com/Documents/Document04.html>



**Sami trousers from the Swedish province of Västerbotten.  
front and back.**