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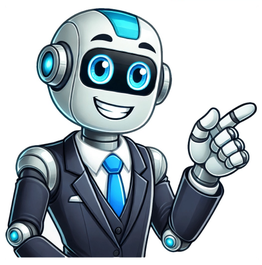

Theres something magical about the festive period.Boosted by the twinkling of decorative lights hanging through high streets and drawn together by the busy social calendar that Christmas provides, it is impossible not to be put in a cheerful mood.The festive period is a fantastic time filled with friendship, cheer and community spirit.Christmas is synonymous with the sounds of carols being cheerfully sung. From spontaneous performances in public spaces to more organised events; Christmas is a time filled with music.If you are a member or leader of a choir, you will most likely be spending your festive period performing at a whole host of seasonal choral showcases.But, with so many choir performances to participate in over the Christmas season, how can you help your choir to put on a stand out performance?Weve compiled a list of 10 tips to ensure your choir stands out this Christmas, to keep the crowds and your singers entertained all the way through til New Years!1. Special Song SelectionEverybody knows the Christmas classics. From O Come All Ye Faithful to Silent Night, the traditional festive repertoire is known, and loved, by everyone.Of course, there will always be a place for the time-honoured Christmas hymns and carols, but, a surefire way to stand out this Christmas period is to add some more unusual song choices to your choirs setlist.Why not put a festive choral spin on some more modern songs to show your choirs range? And, use your musical know-how to reimagine contemporary songs in a Christmassy context.Just as a certain well-known high street retailer often takes a tune from todays charts and reimagines it for their Christmas adverts, your choir could really grab your audiences attention as they realise its not a classic carol their listening to, but rather a modern song with your unique choral twist.Why not try putting your own spin on Celestes Strange? The gentle melodic song would be perfect for a choral performance. Or, how about your take on the iconic songs that have been featured in John Lewis Christmas adverts?For a modern and engaging performance, try a choral arrangement of songs such as Somewhere Only We Know, One Day Ill Fly Away, Half the World Away or Your Song.2. Tinseltown Themed PerformancesWhy not consider going even further than performing modern songs in your festive performance and put on a complete themed show?There are certain Christmas films with soundtracks so toe-tappingly uplifting that they put a smile on everyones faces.From pop-culture icons such as Love Actually to more classic films including White Christmas and kids favourites like Frozen, there are plenty of Christmas films with wonderful soundtracks perfect for a festive performance.Your choir could really stand out and bring smiles to the faces of festive film fans this Christmas with a themed performance based on the songs of a classic Christmas film.If you feel this is too far for your choir, you could start and end your performances with a small storyline to top and tail the night and give a little additional narrative to the performance.3. Get Everyone InvolvedChristmas is a time for coming together and, what better way to boost community spirit than inviting them into your performance?Music is a universal language and a fantastic way to cross over generational, societal and language barriers.Including the audience in your choirs performance is a great way to ensure they have a memorable experience, try simply providing lyric sheets for the crowds to sing from.Or, for a more informal but hugely fun performance, make your choirs show more interactive and invite members of the audience up to the mic to sing with you.You never know, you may find some new recruits along the way!Top Tip have back up singers in the audience or in the choir to boost audience participation. Being the first to come out of the audience can seem like a large leap and be slightly out of the ordinary. Seeing someone else go up first can boost the rest of the audiences confidence.4. Surprise Singing LocationsOf course, theres nothing more classically Christmassy than the sounds of a choirs performance flowing out from church doors.And, everyone loves their Christmas shopping to be accompanied by the delightful tones of a performance in a town square or high street.But, to really stand out this Christmas, why not have your choir perform in more unusual locations. Staging a surprise performance on a train platform for waiting commuters is sure to put a smile on their faces for the rest of the day.Or, bring some festive joy and yuletide spirit to those who may not be able to otherwise enjoy a Christmas show and perform for the residents of a care home or community hospital.A unique way to start your performance and really put on a show is to have the members of your choir begin the performance from different areas and come together as they sing. This flashmob style performance can really grab the audiences attention as they work to figure out whats going on!Top tip: Film your surprise flashmob style performance to share online. This will show off your choir in a great light and spread the Christmas joy throughout social media!5. A Bit of Festive CompetitionHave a healthy rivalry with another choir in your local area? Why not invite them to take part in a festive sing-off?You could stage a joint performance where each choir battles in a Christmas carol sing-off, or join forces in an exclusive Christmas showcase.It will provide a bit of faux-drama for the audience and perhaps the fusion of two choirs could throw up some interesting new harmonies and previously unconsidered song choices.Plus, youll likely draw in an even wider audience as fans of each choir come together to see you both perform together.6. The Kids are AlrightIf your choir is looking for a way to get the Christmas community spirit flowing in abundance then why not consider inviting children from your local schools or clubs to join in your festive performance?No one feels the joy of Christmas quite like a bright-eyed child and this joy will surely be infectious for everyone involved in the performance, from the conductor to the audience.Simple choral arrangements and well-known carols are perfect for performing with children of all ages. And, giving the children the experience of performing in an adults choir could spark a lifetime love of performing.The combination of the childrens rosy-cheeked, enthusiastic performance with your choirs beautifully harmonised tones is sure to be memorable for anyone in the audience.7. Dress in Christmas Choral ColoursOne sure-fire way for your choir to stand out this Christmas season is for everyone to be sharply dressed.Whether you opt for a classic all-black look for a chic presentation or go more out there with festive themed costumes, its always more memorable when a choir looks coordinated and put together.For a classic choral look, browse our choir wear collection, available in a range of styles and colours sure to complement any choirs Christmas performance, reindeer antlers optional.The required performance attire is exactly the same as last year.Boys:long-sleeved white dress shirts,khaki pants, solid red ties, and dress shoes.Exception: Pre-Kindergartenboys are not required to wear ties.Girls: long-sleeved white dress shirts or blouses, khaki pants or SJS skirts, dress shoes.Note: K through 5th grade will be wearingour traditionalred choir robes over their concert attire this year.Choir Dress code for the Liturgical year:ORDINARY TIME:WHITE tops/black bottoms.ADVENT:PURPLE tops/black bottomsThird Sunday of Advent-PINK!Immaculate Conception (12/8)- BLUE topsChristmas Eve- Concert attire/ Day- wear your Christmas best!Back to WHITE tops black bottoms through Ordinary TimeLENT:Purple or Black tops/black bottomsFourth Sunday of Lent-PINK! HOLY WEEK:Palm Sunday: RED topsHoly Thursday: WHITE topsGood Friday: All BLACKEASTER VIGIL-Easter Best!/ SUNDAY: WHITE tops Back to WHITE tops, black bottomsPentecost:RED tops Holy Trinity & Corpus Christi- WHITE topsSaints Peter & Paul- REDAssumption (8/15)- BLUE tops ALSO:For any patriotic holidays you may wear RED, WHITE AND BLUE. For Mother's Day &Father's Day wear what you'd like.October is breast cancer awareness month: wear PINK!Healing masses- wear RED Christmas Concert:Ladies: WHITE tops/Black bottoms with Red scarves.Gentlemen wear WHITE button down LONG SLEEVE shirtand Christmas ties.Living rosary service: BLUE topsResurrection Choir- Funerals: WHITE tops/ Black bottomsHealing Masses- RED topsFormal religious clothingThis article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources:"Choir dress"news newspapers books scholar JSTOR (March 2013) (Learn how and when to remove this message)Bishop in choir dress with trainChoir dress of a Cistercian nun: a long white cowlNorbertine abbot in white prelate choir dress, 18th centuryMonsignor Herrincx in Franciscan brown prelate choir dressBenedictine Abbot Schober in black prelate choir dress and black fur cappa magnaRoman Catholic secular canons in choir dress: cassock, rochet, mozzetta, and pectoral cross on cordMonsignor Gilles Wach in the blue choir dress of the ICKSPChoir dress is the traditional vesture of the clerics, seminarians and religious of Christian churches worn for public prayer and the administration of the sacraments except when celebrating or concelebrating the Eucharist. It differs from the vestments worn by the celebrants of the Eucharist, being normally made of fabrics such as wool, cotton or silk, as opposed to the fine brocades used in vestments. It may also be worn by lay assistants such as acolytes and choirs. It was abandoned by most of the Protestant churches that developed from the sixteenth-century Reformation.[1]Like Eucharistic vestments, choir dress derived originally from the formal secular dress of the Roman Empire in the first centuries of the Christian era. This survived in church usage after fashion had changed.[1] Choir dress differs from "house dress," which is worn outside of a liturgical context (whether in the house or on the street). House dress may be either formal or informal.Choir dress in the Catholic Church is worn by deacons, priests, regular prelates, bishops and cardinals when presiding at or celebrating a liturgy that is not the Mass, especially the Liturgy of the Hours.Before the Second Vatican Council, the dress was more elaborate. It had dozens of varieties and colours. After the Second Vatican Council, it was reduced; however, exceptions are sometimes granted for cathedral chapters.The current dress is worn when attending Mass without celebrating or observing the Eucharist. It is worn by seminarians, instituted lectors and acolytes, and altar servers and choir members at Mass or other liturgical events.The basic components of choir dress are:the cassock, with or without fascia (fringed sash worn around the waist),if the person is a brother or priest in a religious order that has its own habit (Benedictines, Franciscans, Dominicans, etc.), the habit is worn in place of the cassock,the surplice (or rochet if the wearer is a bishop, cardinal, or canon), andthe biretta (optional for secular priests unless their bishop requires its use, in which case it is mandatory).For seminarians, deacons, and priests the cassock is exactly the same as their normal cassock: a black cassock with black buttons, girded with a black fascia.Priests who hold additional honors may wear a different cassock: Chaplains of His Holiness wear a black cassock with purple piping, buttons, and fascia; while Honorary Prelates and Protonotaries apostolic wear a purple cassock with scarlet piping and buttons, with a purple fascia. A black cassock with amaranth piping and buttons, girded with a purple fascia, serves as pian dress (academic dress) for an honorary prelate or protonotary apostolic. Canons may wear the rochet (if the chapter has been granted usus rochetti by papal indult) with a distinctive mozzetta, the particular colors of which are determined by the chapter.Bishops wear the above-mentioned purple cassock with scarlet piping, and add a pectoral cross suspended from a green and gold cord, a mozzetta over the rochet, and a purple zucchetto under the biretta. A cardinal wears a scarlet cassock with scarlet trim, pectoral cross on a red and gold cord, and a red mozzetta over the rochet, with a red zucchetto. The Pope's choir dress includes a white cassock, rochet, red silk mozetta, and red brocade stole; his pectoral cross hangs from a golden cord. Some canons wear their cross on a ribbon, but only a bishop may wear the cross on a cord. Under new regulations, neither bishops nor canons wear fur-trimmed cappas.The cope and stole may be worn over choir dress when a cleric presides over a sacrament (for instance, at matrimony, if not celebrated during Mass), or by the cleric presiding over prayers (for instance, the priest presiding at a solemn celebration of Vespers in the Liturgy of the Hours might wear cope and stole over choir dress, while other clergy present would wear simple choir dress of cassock and surplice).Lay brothers also have a form of choir dress: the full monastic habit with the monastic cowl is their formal wear for attending the Liturgy of the Hours or Mass.PopeCardinalBishopHigher prelates of the Roman Curia andprotonotaries apostolic de numeroSupernumerary protonotaries apostolic andhonorary prelatesChaplains of His HolinessPriests, deacons, seminarians and acolytesCanons (designs vary)Since 2006, priests of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest have had their own choir dress, given to them by the Archbishop of Florence. Their choir dress includes a rochet, a mozzetta, the cross of St. Francis de Sales on a blue and white ribbon, and a biretta with a blue pom. According to the Institute, The blue stands for our complete dedication to the Blessed Mother and is traditionally the color shown on St. Francis de Sales in most paintings of him," and "The choir dress expresses the strong unity, spiritually, and identity of the Institute and adds solemnity to the liturgy.""Frequently Asked Questions". institute-christ-king.org. Archived from the original on 8 September 2018. Retrieved 17 September 2018.Priests, superiors and prior general of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign PriestSaint John (Maximovich) wearing choir dress of an Orthodox bishop: klobuk, outer riassa, Panagia, and episcopal mandyas; holding his paterissa (crozier).Syriac Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch Ignatius Zakka I Iwas (in red cassock) and a priest (in black).The choir dress of clergy in the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches are relatively similar. Over the inner cassock (rasson or podrasnik), a deep-sleeved exorason (riassa), which is often black, is worn. In the Russian Orthodox Church, married clergy often wear grey, while monastic clergy wear black. During the paschal season, both monastic and married clergy will often wear a white inner cassock. Some Russian Metropolitans wear a white inner cassock and a blue outer when formally arriving to celebrate the Divine Liturgy.In Eastern Orthodoxy and Byzantine Catholicism, monks wear a black cloak, the mandyas over the outer cassock. The mandyas completely covers the monastic below the chin and reaches to the floor. In the Greek usage, the mandyas is usually worn only when performing certain liturgical roles; in the Slavic usage, all monks and nuns of the rank of Stavrophore or above wear the mandyas at every service, so long as they are in their own monastery. The mandyas of an hegumen (abbot) is of black silk, that of an archimandrite or bishop is of colored silk (specific usages will differ by jurisdiction), and has four square "tablets" on it: two at the neck and two at the feet. A bishop's mandyas additionally has "rivers" on it: three horizontal stripes either of gold (Greek practice) or red and white (Slavic practice).Monastic clergy wear different headcoverings than married clergy. Married clergy wear either a colored kalimaukion or skufia; monastic clergy wear a black kalimaukion and veil (together known as the klobuk). For monastics, the skufia is reserved for house dress, and the klobuk is worn in church. Russian archbishops have a jewelled cross attached to the front of their klobuks; Russian Metropolitans wear a white klobuk with jewelled cross. Several Orthodox Patriarchs wear a rounded headcovering called a koukoulion.Priests who have been awarded a pectoral cross wear it with their choir dress (these pectoral crosses are of several degrees: silver, gold, or jewelled). Bishops wear a panagia (icon of the Theotokos) in place of the pectoral cross. Archbishops may wear a pectoral cross and a panagia. All primates and some bishops below primatial rank have the dignity of wearing an enkolpion (icon of Christ), a pectoral cross, and a panagia.A ruling Igumen (so long as he is inside his own monastery) and a bishop may carry his paterissa (crozier) when he is in church. However, the paterissa is never to be carried inside the sanctuary; instead, when the priest goes into the altar, the paterissa is either handed to an altar server or left leaning against the iconostasis outside the Holy Doors.In North America and Great Britain, some Orthodox clergy have begun to wear a Roman collar (clergy shirt). This practice is discouraged among the more traditional Orthodox.There exist color and design variations in each autocephalous Church, but these diagrams give some examples of Eastern Orthodox choir dress vestments:Patriarch (Slavic)Metropolitan (Slavic)Bishop (Slavic)Bishop (Greek)PriestHieromonkSchemamonkMonkReader/Subdeacon/DeaconSyriac PatriarchSyriac BishopCoptic PriestSyriac PriestSyriac Priest (monk)In the Syriac Orthodox Church, married priests wear a black skullcap, or phiro, while monastic priests wear the schema, eskimo. For certain sacramental functions, a priest or bishop wears the epitrachelion (stole).An Anglican priest delivers a homily, dressed in choir habit with Canterbury capAn Anglican priest in choir dress: cassock, surplice and tippet. The dark red of his academic hood can be seen on his shoulders.An Anglican bishop in choir dress: purple cassock, rochet, red chimere and cuffs, tippet, and pectoral cross.Choir dress in Anglicanism traditionally consists of cassock, surplice and scarf (or tippet).[n 1] An academic hood may also be worn. Since 1964 in the Church of England, a cope may be worn at the discretion of the minister.[2] But, the basic garment was, and is, the surplice, which by the fourteenth century had become the essential choir vestment everywhere.[3] The surplice was the only vesture permitted to the clergy in the 1552 Prayer Book, except for bishops, who should use a rochet (both wore cassocks as the standard undergarment).[4] The Elizabethan Prayer Book of 1559 included the so-called Ornaments Rubric. Its legal interpretation was disputed in the nineteenth century;[5] it was claimed that its inclusion in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer commanded the pre-Reformation Eucharistic vestments (chasuble, dalmatic, tunicle, alb, amice, and maniple) that had been in use during the reign of Edward VI.[4] However, the Elizabethan bishops struggled to enforce the use of the surplice.[4] The use of Eucharistic vestments was discontinued until after the Oxford Movement, in the middle of the nineteenth century, when it was restored in many cathedrals and parish churches.[3] In many low-church dioceses and parishes, the choir dress continued to be the norm, even at the Eucharist. The cope continued in use for coronations and in certain cathedrals, but this may be considered an extension of "choir dress" and was sanctioned by the canons of 1603/4.[6]The cassock is almost invariably black for priests and deacons. A traditional Anglican cassock is double-breasted, being buttoned on the shoulder rather than up the front (there may be a single button sewn to the center of the chest used to fasten the academic hood if worn). Many Anglican clergy, especially (though not exclusively) those within the Catholic tradition of Anglicanism, prefer to wear the Latin single-breasted cassock. The cassock is worn with a cincture, which may take the form of a cloth sash resembling a fascia, or a simple rope girdle or leather belt. Over this is worn the surplice, which is longer and fuller than that worn by Roman Catholic clergy, sometimes reaching well below the knees. Traditionally, an academic hood is worn around the shoulders and down the back, along with a black tippet or scarf worn around the nape and hanging straight down in front. The hood and tippet were once a single garment called an almuce. (The tippet is not to be confused with the stole, which is also worn in a similar manner, but is not part of choir dress. It is worn at the Eucharist and other sacramental services.) Some clergy also wear Geneva bands (or "preaching tabs") from their collars. Though not worn at service time, the Canterbury cap is the traditional headgear of Church of England clergy; some prefer the biretta (see below) or mortar board. Neither is widely worn. A square cap, with cassock, gown and tippet, was specified in English canon law as part of the "outdoor habit" or "house dress" of the clergy until the promulgation of new canons in the 1960s.[7] At some periods of history a black gown, either academic or 'Genevan', was worn for Morning and Evening Prayer instead of the surplice, which was reserved for use at the Holy Communion. The cassock, bands, gown, academic hood and tippet are still the normal liturgical costume for an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland and other Reformed and Presbyterian churches.Chaplains in the Armed Forces wear tippets with officially sanctioned badges and any medals they have achieved. A bishop or priest may wear a tippet with the arms of the seminary from which he or she received their degree. In England, some cathedral clergy wear tippets on which is embroidered the distinctive symbol or cathedral coat of arms. Members of the high church, or Anglo-Catholic parts of the church, sometimes wear choir dress of a more Roman Catholic style, including a shorter surplice (or cotta), a stole (and sometimes a biretta), excluding hood and tippet.Readers when officiating often wear a blue tippet, or, in the United States, a black tippet displaying the arms of the diocese. At the Eucharist, readers of Scripture may wear street clothing to emphasize the role of the laity, as expressed in recent versions of the Prayer Book. But, in some parishes readers wear the traditional vestments of the subdeacon at High Mass: alb fastened with a white cincture and a tunicle. In other parishes they wear the cassock and surplice, as do members of the choir.Anglican bishops usually wear a purple cassock. Over this they wear the rochet with red or black chimere and matching cuffs, black tippet, and sometimes an academic hood.BishopCanon (cassock colors vary)Priest or DeaconReaderLayperson^ Tippet is often used as a synonym of "scarf", but historically it may also have been used in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries for a type of non-academic hood that extended forward down over the chest.(Cross & Livingstone 1974, "Tippet")^ a b Grisebrooke 1978, p.489, Vestments.^ Canons of 1964 and following years: B.8.3^ a b Simpson, John A. arts "Surplice" & "Vestments" in The New International Dictionary of the Christian Church J.D. Douglas(ed.) Exeter: Paternoster (1974)^ a b c Procter & Frere. A New History of the Book of Common Prayer, MacMillan (1902), pp. 82; 362ff & 110, respectively.^ Cross & Livingstone 1974, "Ornaments Rubric, The".^ Davis 1869, p.25, Canon 24.^ Davis 1869, p.73, Canon 74 of 1603/04 replaced by C.27Cross, F.L.; Livingstone, E.A., eds. (1974). The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church (2nded.). Oxford: University Press.Davis, C.H. (1869). The English Church Canons of 1604: With Historical Introduction and Notes, Critical and Explanatory, Showing the Modifications of Each Canon by Subsequent Acts of Parliament, Etc. H. Sweet.Grisebrooke, W. Jardine (1978). "Vestments". In Jones, C.; Wainwright, G.; Yarnold, E. (eds.). The Study of Liturgy. SPCK. ISBN978-0-281-03578-6.Dress of Roman Catholic ClergyThe Mozzetta Information and photosThe MantellettaCanonsChaplains of His Holiness detailed information on the choir dress of prelates of the papal household both before and after Vatican IIRetrieved from " Choral music is all about harmony and doing things in unison. For that reason, theres almost always a choir dress code and usually, there are standard outfits for everyone to wear for performances.For choral leaders, figuring out your choirs apparel is a great way to establish your groups identity and add visual flair. If you compete at a high level (like the World Choir Games) then you want every advantage you can get and that includes great choice outfit ideas. But even if you are performing for your community for the sheer pleasure of it, choir outfits give your group an unforgettable presence.So how do you decide what to wear to a choir concert? Below, well look at the seven most important things to consider.1. Formality of the EventWe put this consideration at the top of the list because its the only one that can have pretty big consequences if you get it wrong. If you underdress for an occasion, it will be seen as deeply disrespectful. If you overdress, it will make it difficult for audiences to connect. Those high stakes make the formality of an event the most important to keep in mind by far. If you are performing at a prestigious event, then you have to match it with attire that reflects the events significance. Think ties, dress shirts, or maybe full-on tuxedos and dresses. If the event is not formal, use that freedom to think outside the box.2. Event ThemeLike the formality level, the events theme is often a great jumping-off point for choir outfit ideas. After all, there are times when its simply easiest and best to go with the flow and reinforce the event. Doing a holiday concert? Why not dress in green and red? It might not be overly creative, but sometimes the most straightforward choice is the most effective.3. ComfortChoir attire enhances the visual impact of your performance, but it can also put an enormous hamper on the comfort of your singers. For that reason, you want to be careful to pick breathable, flexible fabrics. If you have choreography planned, youll want to ensure that the movements are easy to do in the choir outfits youve picked out. Luckily, much thought and effort has been put into developing clothing that looks very formal but is actually very comfortable, so do your research online before you buy.4. Color CoordinationWhile most choir uniforms will be all the same, some groups choose to change things up a little. If you let in some personalization or differences between outfits, make sure that there is still some coordination around the main colors and themes. This keeps your group visually stunning while also emphasizing the unity of your members always a plus in choral music.5. Your Choirs IdentityAre you going to be performing folk music? Or maybe classical pieces? Maybe you are covering pop hits? Whatever your choirs musical identity, you can reinforce that with your choir outfits. This synergy can really underline the vibe your performance is going for. Thats especially critical in competitions, where you want to stand out in the judges mind. A striking visual is sure to do that.6. Budget!Youve probably already thought about it, but this bears repeating. Dont blow your budget on attire. Also, if choristers are expected to buy what they wear to the choir performance, youll want to make sure your choices are truly accessible to all. This can be an uncomfortable topic to open up, but finding a way to make things budget-friendly for everyone will be very appreciated.7. Dont Be Afraid to AccessorizeBecause choirs perform on stage, its easy to think that any detail will be a blur to the audience. Actually, accessories can do a lot for your presentation. Scarves, ties, jewelry, belts these can set apart your groups look. Obviously, you want to make sure that these accessories dont distract from the performance.Picking the Perfect Choir OutfitIf you take the above considerations to heart, picking out your choir outfit will end up with an amazing look that wows audiences and judges. Itll be that added spark that makes your performance something people will be talking about for months and years to come.Interested in more insights into the world of choral music? Make sure to keep an eye on INTERKULTURs latest posts.INTERKULTUR Newsroom Avoid monitoring or commenting on others' clothing or abilities unless encouraging and Christ-exalting.Platform attire should reflect wisdom, modesty, and who we are in Christ.Perform a worship check: raise arms, check all angles in the mirror, and ensure nothing inappropriate is revealed.You may be asked to adjust your outfit if it doesnt meet dress code; shirts, jackets, and sweaters are available if needed.Keep accessories minimal; avoid anything that draws attention.Wear dark, solid colors (black, navy, charcoal). Avoid large patterns.Ensure modesty: nothing short, tight, low-cut, or see-through.Short sleeves are fine, but no sleeveless tops; sleeve length should suit your arms.Printed/graphic T-shirts are not allowed, except CFBC ministry shirts.Wear dark shoes; avoid white or light-colored footwear.Use discretion and prioritize modesty in all clothing choices.As many regular readers will know, I hate a choir in uniform. However, it is a good idea to have some kind of unifying dress code and also to show your audience that youve made an effort. Here are some ideas to consider.There are two extremes when it comes to what choirs wear when performing:the weve just walked in off the street casual, everyday clothes look, and the identical, tightly policed, perfectly rendered uniform. Neither extreme is a good idea. Whatever you choose, singers need to feel special and comfortable and that theyve made an effort. You need to have some kind of style or theme that shows that all singers in the choir are on the same team but which also has scope for individual expression. For my first choir, WorldSong, I decided to have a choir colour: red. The instructions were to wear a black bottom half (skirt or trousers), black shoes and a single coloured, plain (i.e. no pattern) red top. That left enough leeway for individual expression whilst showing that we were all in it together.WorldSong on tour! WorldSong dress code later relaxed to include red bottom halfI inherited the dress code for my next choir, Woven Chords. It was the same idea as WorldSong only the colour was blue. I did adapt the policy after a while and allowed people to wear all black if they preferred but they had to include a blue accessory: tie, brooch, scarf, etc.Woven Chords in concertWith my most recent choir, The OK Chorale, I decided to experiment. I soon found out that, although blue and red work well, green doesnt! There are so many different shades and types of green that it simply doesnt hang together. Next I tried involving two colours. I chose blue and yellow and randomly assigned a colour to each choir member. There was a lot of swapping between people who didnt like the colour theyd been given! In the end it didnt work as the colours tended to end up in clumps rather than being spread evenly throughout the choir. My latest scheme is one Ive used with several projects: black bottom half and single colour top which should be bright, joyful and comfortable. The result is always colourful and uplifting and tends to change slightly with the seasons.Choir for Children in Need Heres what Ive learnt from years of experimenting. You might find some handy hints here.not everyone has black in their wardrobe surprising, but true! Before you choose a colour make sure that its relatively common in peoples wardrobes. cost is an issue whether youre asking someone to go out and buy a new white top from a charity shop or invest in an official choir t-shirt, make sure that everyone can afford it. emphasise comfort whatever you decide, singers must feel comfortable in what theyre wearing. Not only should it be easy to move (and breathe!) in, but it shouldnt make people feel awkward or embarrassed. Ideally what a singer wears for a concert should make them feel special and that theyve dressed up for the occasion. Its all relative though. dont be too prescriptive leave a little room for singers imaginations and individuality. If they feel that theyve put thought into what they wear theyll feel proud of it. what you wear is what you do does your choir outfit reflect well on the ethos and repertoire of your choir? If you sing formal, classical repertoire you might want formal, classical clothes. If you sing extensively African traditional songs or pop, you might want to be a bit more informal. fit your outfit to the context dont fix on just one choir uniform. It looks a bit daft seeing tuxedos and bow ties in the park on a hot summers day. On the other hand, jeans and t-shirts dont go down well in a posh concert hall. Vary your theme to suit the occasion whilst retaining the flavour of your choir. remember youre here to sing! dont get so hung up on what you wear that you lose sight of the fact that youre supposed to be making beautiful music together. you cant please everyone singers in your choir have signed up to the vision of the musical director. That may well include the overall look and feel of the choir. If youre the choir leader you cant please everyone. For every singer who wants the choir to perform in identical t-shirts there will be another who thinks black bottom half is too restrictive. I hope you find these observations useful. Id love to hear about the decisions that your choir has made, maybe even your own horror stories of when it all went wrong! Do drop by and leave a comment, wed love to hear from you. found this helpful?I provide this content free of charge, because I like to be helpful. If you have found it useful, you may like to ... ... to say thank you. Website: chrisrowbury.com Facebook: Facebook.com/ChrisRowbury Bluesky: chrisrowbury.bsky.social Monthly Music Round-up: ChrisRowbury.substack.com YouTube: YouTube.com/ChrisRowbury Seats are allocated within each voice part. Your Steward will tell you which row and seat number you have been allocated. At Southwell Minster you may be asked to sit in an area of the platform with no specific seat allocated. Your seat for the afternoon rehearsal is your place for the concert.The Concert Manager or Seating Coordinator is responsible for seating so please be prepared tomove if asked by either or by a Section Rep.Presentation Afternoon RehearsalLatecomers must wait for a suitable break before joining the body of the Chorus. If the Conductor releases the Chorus early but keeps the orchestra onstage, leave very quickly and in complete silence or remain until the orchestra finish.Presentation ConcertProfessional i.e. correct concert dress, no fidgeting with music, no bottles of water and no waving to the audience. No talking from when the first violinist stands to tune the orchestra.Concert DressThe dress code may vary from concert to concert, although there are 2 primary variations with further advice specifically for the carol concerts.Please refer to the members page on the website where you will find a clear statement as to which dress code applies to our next concert.Female Dress Code Version 1Black, long-sleeved blouse (modest neckline, no transparent or translucent material) smart formal black trousers or full/ankle length black skirt, black shoes, black tights/stockings; for clarity, blouses should be button-through with a collar.Red scarves are worn for most concerts. These will be available to buy in the run up to the concerts for 2. The sum is refundable for a scarf in good condition, in the event of leaving the choir. We also now have blue scarves clear instruction will be given about which scarf will be used for each concert.Male Dress Code Version 1Smart formal black trousers, no jacket, black shirt with normal collar (not a wing collar), black neck-tie (not a bow tie), no visible braces, black shoes, black socks. No waistcoats or breast pocket handkerchiefs.Male Dress Code Version 2Black dinner suit (jacket buttoned), white shirt with normal collar (not a wing-collar), black bow tie, black shoes, black socks. No waistcoats or breast pocket handkerchiefs.Carol Concerts:-Female Dress Code Version 2Black, long sleeved blouse (modest neckline, no transparent or translucent material) smart formal black trousers or full/ankle length black skirt, black shoes, black tights/stockings; for clarity, blouses should be button-through with a collar. Red scarves are also worn. It has become the custom to wear, if wished, sparkly jewellery or festive brooch, plus festive hats (Santa hats/reindeer antlers etc.) for final group items. Please, no flashing lights, as this can cause problems for audience members.Male Dress Code Version 3Smart formal black trousers, no jacket, white shirt with normal collar (not a wing collar), red bow tie, no visible braces, black shoes, black socks. It has become the custom to wear red bow tie and festive button-holes/Christmas Charity bells, plus fun festive hats (Santa hats/reindeer antlers etc.) for final group items. Please, no flashing lights, as this can cause problems for audience members.All: Be sensitive to the wearing of perfume/aftershave for either rehearsals or concerts due to possible allergic reactions in others.Music folder:All members must use a Nottingham Harmonic Society folder.Posture:Performing: When standing ready to sing music folder held open.Applause: When standing, music folder closed, flat against chest/middle, held with opening aperture in RIGHT hand, logo visibleStands: Beginning of concert STAND as the conductor comes on to the platform. (If not performing in that part of the programme remain seated unless instructed otherwise.) If singing is immediate e.g. in the first movement or immediately folder should be opened at the correct page. If conductor has indicated choir to sit before first entry music folder should remain closed as in Posture point 2.Sits: Always QUIETLYAs indicated/cued in your copyWhen the leader of Orchestra sitsPlatform ProcedurePlease do not obstruct the public stairways when queuing to go on stage.Usually FRONT ROW leads on folders should be under your outward facing arm with your hand on the open edge with the logo visible.Please sit down when your row is complete.STAND as one body when the conductor is first visible coming on to the platform and either sit when directed or REMAIN STANDING ready to sing.If we are not singing in the first/second half, then we are as audience so remain seated at all times.INTERVAL: Please DO NOT DELAY nor sit down. Ends of rows lead off immediately. Do not leave folders on seats/floor. Return your seat to the upright position. For Royal Concert Hall, please use two doors to speed egress of the choir. Note time interval starts and reassemble 15 minutes later (20min interval). You must not be late for going on. We cannot allow any delay of the choir assembly as this would impede the start of the second half of the concert.AT END OF CONCERT please remain standing, close scores when applause begins hold folders underRIGHT arm; hand on open edge, logo visible.Sit when directed or when the leader of the orchestra sits.Only applaud soloists etc. when you are seated.EXIT DO NOT DELAY nor sit down if stood. Folders under outward facing arm; hand on open edge, logo visible. Ends of rows lead off immediately. Return your seat to the upright position. For Royal Concert Hall, please use two doors to speed egress of the choir. Our intention is to look formal, smart and professional. We are a choir of individuals, but we need a cohesive appearance, hence a dress code.The following may seem a bit didactic, but comments from choir members and audience members have helped us identify important issues.WomenAll black. Floor length skirt or dress, or black trousers (not too tight-fitting, like leggings or skinny jeans). No short or calf length skirts or dresses please, however lovely your legs are.Tops also black individuals can choose their own style but sleeves should be at least elbow length. They may be lacy, but not revealing or low cut (i.e. no cleavage).Please bear in mind that some materials fade in the wash we want a good strong black colour.Jewellery discretionary discreet earrings, necklace, rings, bracelets, brooches silver, gold or black.Shoes and tights or socks black. Please dont show bare legs or ankles.A small black handbag may be carried on to the stage if required.Splash of colour ribbon(s), scarf, corsage, headband or similar. The colours of the splash will be decided in advance of each concert and announced to members. The splash should be big enough to be seen from the back of the hall, but should not be too big or detract from the overall black effect. Suggested sizes are 13 x 137 cm for scarves; 5-8 cm for brooches; necklaces, earrings and hair ornaments big enough to be seen from a distance. It should blend with the choir image and look smart.MenStandard Concert DressBlack trousersBlack shirtBlack shoes and socksNo tie or bow tieFormal we will communicate in advance when formal concert wear is requiredDinner suit with white shirtBlack shoes and socksBlack bow tieOccasional performancesThere will be concerts when we have a different dress code according to the occasion e.g. Christmas. We will let choir members know in good time.For community performances, we usually wear informal black and white. This means all black, or any combination of black and white including patterns, flowers, stripes, spots etc but men shouldnt wear black bow ties on white shirts as it looks too formal). Black should be black (not grey or navy blue) and white should be white (not cream or off-white).FoldersEvery member of the choir must have a BFCS folder for every performance. These can be purchased from the library team. It doesnt matter if its your first show choir or your 20th, plan ahead and be quick when it comes to ordering dresses. While we can ship faster than most show choir dress companies, its never a bad idea to plan ahead and go through a list of considerations for choosing the best show choir dresses. Planning ahead will also let you avoid bumping into problems in back orders, for example, or your favorite style and size might not be available on time.Heres a list that will guide you through choosing that show choir dress you need. Once you know what you want, quickly order with Concert Attire.Why Choose Concert Attires Show Choir Dresses? Concert Attiress show choir dresses will make you feel like youve already won or given the performance of your lifetime. We offer a wide variety of show choir dresses, from those that shimmer to those that flow, sparkle, or wow the audience.Choosing What To Wear for a Choir ShowWhile we promise youll look stunning in any of our dresses, its better to go through this list of considerations before picking a show choir dress.Planning the OutfitTake your time to think about what you want to wear, and then take action as soon as you can. Concert Attire will ship fast, but we recommend planning ahead to avoid any unforeseen problems or even get a chance to return something. Plan with your group to have several options ready for your dresses in case we dont have the exact style you want or need for the performance. Dont delay, and order quickly after planning.StyleRemember that youre part of a choir and not doing a solo performance. Think about the set and how the rest are going to dress. You might even want to take into consideration if the dress is useful for future performances or if they are better suited for a specific season. Always go for the most flattering styles when it comes to women. Look also at how the men will dress so that both will complement each other. Men tend to go for a style that makes them look important or stand out among the dresses.SizesFor some, this is the most stressful part of picking the dress the size. Make sure someone with experience measuring and sizing is helping you unless youre a pro by yourself. For both men and women, the key is to start by measuring the bodys largest section, which is almost always the hips in the case of women ordering a fitted dress.Women should wear the undergarments they would normally wear while performing so that theyre taken into account for the dress. Too often, bras are left out of the sizing, and the dress is uncomfortable throughout every performance.Lastly, always pick the biggest measurement for deciding the size for both sexes. If its a girl with a size S chest but L waist, then get the L size. It will be easier to adjust the chest to a smaller size than expand the dress to a bigger waist.UndergarmentsStressing the undergarments point, always take them into account. Sometimes the issue wont be the size of the dress but the type of bra. Each girl or lady will need to try on several styles and sizes to find the best fit that works with the dress or costume. For women, bustiers are a good choice for show choir dresses as they help support the waist up and give the dress a smoother look in general.Also, make sure a bustier, bra, spandex, or whatever undergarment you choose is never visible through the dress, or at least nearly invisible.ShippingShipping typically costs around 6 to 12% of your order. This is where planning especially helps, as shipping is cheaper if ordered in advance and not in a hurry.AlterationsPlanning ahead and getting your dress with time to spare will also leave you with enough room to make alterations, if necessary. Almost no man or woman is a perfect size, and they normally look for alterations, even minor ones.The main thing to take into account for alterations is the cost, which mostly varies depending on the fabric and size. Beading is the most difficult to alter, so remember that when choosing a dress. Sequins are always cheaper and a good option if you want some shimmer in your dress.What Types of Show Choir Dresses Do We Offer? Concert Attire has a wide range of styles, sizes, colors, fabrics, and costumes for the show choir industry, which is always changing and immensely creative. Click, call, or even email us to get your favorite style ASAP. Concert Attire provides dresses with glamorous sequins, chic sashes, sleeves or sleeveless, beautiful satins, dye sublimated, glittering skirts, satins, knit, and many more. Our designs will flatter every body type, height, and age while feeling comfortable during any performance.Are you on the lookout for the perfect show choir dress? Stop searching and let our team handle this with all the experience that backs us up. Concert Attire will help you feel like the star that you are so that you can give a memorable performance!

Christmas dress code. Choir dress code. Christmas dress for choir. Tabernacle choir christmas concert dress code. Tabernacle choir christmas concert 2024 dress code. Christmas choir outfits. Christmas choir dress ideas. Christmas choir attire. What to wear to a choir concert. Choir christmas carol dress code.

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