

Uniform:

Many items can be used for both Federal and Confederate impressions, which will be indicated. Expect to pay \$900 to \$1200 over a period of time to fully outfit yourself. It doesn't have to be done all at once. We have loaner uniforms, leathers, muskets, tents and blank ammunition for use by new recruits.

The following discussion will present a bare bones entry into reenacting. It will get you started building your own kit. Remember you can borrow anything that you don't have yet. Starting with zero? No problem.

Musket- We recommend the .58 caliber 3 band 1853 Enfield or 1861 Springfield musket. They usually cost around \$500 to \$550. It makes no difference whether you select the Euroarms or Armisport brand. Both are excellent, although the Euroarms quality is slightly better and the musket is a bit heavier than an Armisport. Remember to fire black powder only.

Avoid purchasing a two band musket as your first firearm. Two banders can only be used in the front rank. While a three bander allows you to fight in either rank. If you are tall you can assume that you will often be fighting in the rear rank.

Leathers- Belt, cartridge box and cap pouch

Purchase a period black waist belt, black cartridge box with shoulder strap (with or without tins) and a black cap pouch. Black leathers are good on either side. A US belt buckle is correct for either side...turn the US buckle upside down when Confederate for southern nation.

Canteen- You must have a full canteen on your person before drill or battle. A dark blue covered one, a wood one or a plain metal will work for both sides.

Hat- Buy a black slouch hat to start with. That way you can do either side, until you can get a hat for both sides. We recommend a blue kepi or forage cap for federal.

Uniform-The 15th Arkansas prefers that you purchase a grayish Columbus Depot wool jacket with blue trim. The 81st prefers a wool Federal four buttons sack and sky blue pants (which can be used for both sides). That's all you will have to add to the equipment listed above. Then you'll have your basic kit!!