**[Mr.Tignor](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10369-mrtignor/" \o "Go to Mr.Tignor's profile)**

* Ship's Master
* 
* 
* Member
* 102 posts
* Location:Portsmouth, zee silly english colony of virginia
* Interests:I can only be described as a history loving nerd. I like anything with the word "star" in the title, i read comics, watch anime, and annyyttinng else you could get thrown in a locker for LOL. As for reenacting, iv only be at it a year, buutt i am quite committed to trying for an accurate portrayal. Im still working on the finer details of my persona, but im trying for a french impression(without butchering the accent). Later on in time i internd to also do some events in the fur trade era. More details as i figure them out, Cheers mates!

([IP: 70.160.22.197](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=70.160.22.197)) ·

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362335) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362335)

Has anyone else noticed that, in more than one period image, sailors are seen wearing their cocked hats backwards? At first i though it was just the way the are was drawn, but not that i look closer, it seems like they really are on the other way. Iv noticed especially in images slightly after our era(1730's-1800), but its shown in earlier pictures as well.

In this picture(you all know what its of) 2 or3 sailors on the left seem to have their hats backwards.....

and this(1750's)

definitely apparent in this one(1760).......

After seeing these i still didnt quite believe it, bbuutt during a visit to colonial williamsburg, i looked at what they had on sailors. In an illustration in one of their books they clearly show a sailor with his hat the other way(form 1750's i think). And on top of that when i saw the sea rats atlantic this past april( i didnt notice then), i realize a few of them had their hats the other way too. has anyone else noticed/can give me information on this??

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=edit)

[**blackjohn**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1144-blackjohn/)

* Iron Age Hero Lost at Sea
* 
* 
* Member
* 3,745 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Columbia, Md
* Interests:Stuff... and junk.

([IP: 74.107.124.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=74.107.124.220)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362336) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362336)

Yeah, I know my group has talked about it often. I wear my grey hat backwards now and again. I'm pretty sure I picked the habit up from Foxe, who was the first person I recognize having pointed it out as appearing in illustrations of sailors from the period. Fwiw, you see it in at least two RevWar illustrations of British soldiers.

**Edited June 27, 2009 by blackjohn**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362336)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362336_menu)

[**Ransom**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2401-ransom/)

* It's Going on Your Permanent Record
* 
* 
* Moderator
* 5,177 posts
* Gender:Female
* Location:The pirate wasteland of Southern OR.
* Interests:I belong to the Barn Owls Writers Group. My husband and I live on 20 acres with four cats, and a two horses, Delight and Apollo — used to have longhorn cattle, sheep, but no more. Our 28' Tollycraft is moored in Charleston harbor. She has no sails, but dreams of being a schooner.

I like to ride my horse doing Medieval gaming, and now mounted archery, and trail course challenges. I also garden, read, do artwork, write, make beaded jewelry for my Website "Found in the Ruins", and go on antique/junk crawls with my husband of 20+ years. I am somewhat of a costume making junkie. Now I make pyrate and steampunk costumes, as well as SCA costumes and horse bardings, and am having WAY too much fun....

([IP: 69.59.202.66](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=69.59.202.66)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362347) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362347)

After having seen a few illustrations where they were worn slightly off-center, that's how I wear mine. But I'd never seen pics of them actually worn backwards. Early rebellious fashion statement? 

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362347)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362347_menu)

[**LadyBrower**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10561-ladybrower/)

* Pyrate Captain
* 
* 
* Member
* 582 posts
* Gender:Female
* Location:Walden, NY
* Interests:Sewing, Crochet, Knitting, Reading, Cooking, Baking, Yoga, Kickboxing, Bellydance, Guitar Hero, Rockband

([IP: 69.206.131.239](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=69.206.131.239)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362352) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362352)

Could it have anything to do with wind direction? (sorry if that sounds stupid)

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362352)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362352_menu)

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362353) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362353)

Mr. Merriweather wears his backwards a lot due to the Woodes Rogers print... fwiw, try drinking out of a large tankard with your hat worn properly... (not pushed waaaaayyyy back on your head like some old, bad Hollywood western) and see just how often you smack the brim when bringing the vessel to your mouth... turn the hat around and you are no longer hitting the brim, which I have found no historical evidence to back it up, but makes you wonder...

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362353)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362353_menu)

[**blackjohn**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1144-blackjohn/)

* Iron Age Hero Lost at Sea
* 
* 
* Member
* 3,745 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Columbia, Md
* Interests:Stuff... and junk.

([IP: 74.107.124.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=74.107.124.220)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362354) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362354)

So there I was, standing on the deck of a ship, and I wanted to check the sails. I looked up, and what did I see? The peak of my hat. So I turned it around, and then it dawned on me...

**Edited June 27, 2009 by blackjohn**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362354)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362354_menu)

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362356) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362356)

 LadyBrower said:

Could it have anything to do with wind direction? (sorry if that sounds stupid)

Doesn't sound stupid at all, although the reason I often switch to a cocked hat instead of the Beaver, is the wind... I have not found the cocked hats to blow away unless we're talking gale force winds or poor fit...

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362356)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362356_menu)

[**blackjohn**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1144-blackjohn/)

* Iron Age Hero Lost at Sea
* 
* 
* Member
* 3,745 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Columbia, Md
* Interests:Stuff... and junk.

([IP: 74.107.124.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=74.107.124.220)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362357) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362357)

 Ransom said:

Early rebellious fashion statement? 

That may be the case during the Revolution War.



From what I remember, there are orders being issued from on high telling the officers to tell the men to turn their hats around the right way. The men were turning their hats around backwards, then dropping the back (now at the front) down to form a visor. Cocked hats don't offer much shade when worn right. And soldiers being soldiers... sometimes take to doing things the practical way over the "by the book" way. And as a grunt in the line, you really do have to push the limits of jaunty hat wearing!

 Ransom said:

After having seen a few illustrations where they were worn slightly off-center, that's how I wear mine.

The position of a soldier under arms is such that his left eye is over his waistcoat buttons. With the left eye over the waistcoat buttons, a hat worn centered on the forehead would make for a very difficult "shoulder arms" due to the peak on the left hand side being in front of the shoulder. So the hat is worn with the peak over the left eye, and at a very jaunty angle.



**Edited June 27, 2009 by blackjohn**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362357)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362357_menu)

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362358) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362358)

 blackjohn said:

So there I was, standing on the deck of a ship, and I wanted to check the sails. I looked up, and what did I see? The peak of my hat. So I turned it around, and then it dawned on me...

Hmmm funny, I don't have this problem... perhaps because of one eye??... don't have this problem with the beaver either... but I could see a long musket getting in the way, after all the evolution of the cocked hat had the center corner moving closer and offset to accommodate muskets for infantry...who of course, are not sailors...but just try holding a backstaff with a cocked hat on right way round, perhaps they just wanted to show of their handsome faces.... 

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362358)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362358_menu)

[**blackjohn**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1144-blackjohn/)

* Iron Age Hero Lost at Sea
* 
* 
* Member
* 3,745 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Columbia, Md
* Interests:Stuff... and junk.

([IP: 74.107.124.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=74.107.124.220)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362359) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362359)

 Capt. Sterling said:

Hmmm funny, I don't have this problem... perhaps because of one eye??

You obviously are in need of a bigger hat!



* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362359)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362359_menu)

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362361) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362361)

Doesn't get much bigger than the beaver..although my cocked hat's brim is no smaller than yours... although perhaps I compensate more by turning or tilting my head more than the normal in order to see because of the blind eye...i.e. I adjust my person in order to see, not my clothing .. and I have noticed with the beaver, that when the wind does pick up... leaning into it properly will keep that one on my head longer...can't use the backstaff with the beaver either...

**Edited June 27, 2009 by Capt. Sterling**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362361)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362361_menu)

[**Mr.Tignor**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10369-mrtignor/)

* Ship's Master
* 
* 
* Member
* 102 posts
* Location:Portsmouth, zee silly english colony of virginia
* Interests:I can only be described as a history loving nerd. I like anything with the word "star" in the title, i read comics, watch anime, and annyyttinng else you could get thrown in a locker for LOL. As for reenacting, iv only be at it a year, buutt i am quite committed to trying for an accurate portrayal. Im still working on the finer details of my persona, but im trying for a french impression(without butchering the accent). Later on in time i internd to also do some events in the fur trade era. More details as i figure them out, Cheers mates!

([IP: 68.10.103.107](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=68.10.103.107)) · · 

[Posted June 27, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362362) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362362)

i do wonder if that was something done only by sailors. iv been looking and havnt found anyone else doing it....how strange.

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362362)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362362_menu)

[**M.A.d'Dogge**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/4373-maddogge/)

* Second to None
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,534 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:the Port of the Great Inland Sea, Detroit originally from the great inland corn seas of Illinois
* Interests:pyratin, story-tellin, historyin, suba divin, drynkin, skirt chassin, eatin, campin, photographin, cavin, rockclimbin, ghost huntin, talkin, sword fightin, canonin, black powder pistolin, travelin and pretty much anythin that could be included in ADVENTURIN!!!

([IP: 69.14.41.221](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=69.14.41.221)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362373) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362373)

i took it has more in revelry....most i have seen(not all)....seem to be in a drunken mob...or otherwise imbibing mood.....and it seems that i have often...while imbibing ...end up wearring it seemingly backwards....

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362373)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362373_menu)

[**oderlesseye**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2503-oderlesseye/)

* Scourge o' the 7 Seas
* 
* 
* Member
* 2,126 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:San Diego, Ca. (North Park) me cove !
* Interests:Oderlesseye is a mutinous two bit sand dollar with a thirst for adventure. Sailing on tall ships, firing black powder weapons, and sword fighting.. I most love to entertain the public in piratical skit presentations that involve all of the above. My name is befitting of my position on board as that of the look-out. Some ask what’s the meaning of the name Oderlesseye...It is simple really.. When Eye am aloft, ye can’t smell me...But it’s spelled wrong some exclaim! Hey now! What pirate can spell? - is my retort!
I have been an active member of the pirate community since 2005. I consider myself a fan of living history in the Golden Age of Piracy. As a child I , like the lot of ye, loved the old time pirate movies with Errol Flynn and Douglas Fairbanks. Long live Long John Silver !
Inspired by them, Eye created a Pirate Ninja Movie called "Treachery and a Dead Mans Promise" Available on YouTube.
Being a pirate, as it turns out, is multi-dimensional. For me, a lifestyle has been carved out of it. There is a six foot tall skeleton pirate in a make shift hide out called Dead Mans Cove behind my house. The walls are painted giving the impression you are in a sea cave. There is a mural of a pirate coming ashore in a long boat at the mouth of the cove. Believe me, it is a great place to enjoy rum now and again!
Exploration into all things piratical have led me to being an attempted escapee from the Governors noose to impersonating a judge in the Anne Bonnie and Mary Read trial held in Pirates In Paradise.. As Oderlesseye, my one on one impression to patrons is as one whom barley escaped the flames of the ship we took when the powder magazine blew with the booty in me hands from the Captains quarters.. The tale explains the soot on me face, the tattered clothing, and the burnt tricorn, as I hand out a gold coin or two. I hate them plastic ones and I know kids appreciate the metal coins even more so.
When an event is slated for a historical time line presentation to the public, I do not do these things mentioned above. Rather, I share about what is a grape shot or how a flintlock works. I ware clothing that is more closely representing the era in these cases. I am still updating me togs (Period Kit) as I learn more thru fellow pirates and sources like the Pyracy Pub.

So far, there have been many exciting moments of adventure the world of PIRACY has afforded me. From standing on a bar top with Pirates Charles singing to me in New Orleans to shooting cannons ( Ships Guns for you PC Pirates!), on the tall ship Spirit of Dana Point. Cheers from a crowd during a show as last man standing on the Treasure chest proclaiming to an excited crowd ITS MINE! THE BOOTY IS MINE ! YARR ! ~ These things and the notoriety that comes with being a pirate has me hooked! Whats More Is the greater bonds of friendships that have been forged with those whose course finds me at such events, sharing the same love and passion of the Life within the pirate/reenactment community. To Them Eye take me hat off and offer a tot of Rum! Cheers mates!

([IP: 72.220.144.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=72.220.144.220)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362374) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362374)

I have always worn me hat backwards as a sign of rebellion to the prim and proper way of the brutish naval officer who mistreated me.

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362374)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362374_menu)

[**silas thatcher**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10423-silas-thatcher/)

* Notorious Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 774 posts
* Location:st. louis, mo.
* Interests:probably too many interests :) old vw's, sailing, photography, home improvements, and lots more ;)

([IP: 70.242.130.243](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=70.242.130.243)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362377) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362377)

 Capt. Sterling said:

 LadyBrower said:

Could it have anything to do with wind direction? (sorry if that sounds stupid)

Doesn't sound stupid at all, although the reason I often switch to a cocked hat instead of the Beaver, is the wind... I have not found the cocked hats to blow away unless we're talking gale force winds or poor fit...

"the beaver" ??? what kind of hat might that be ?? oops !!! lack of knowledge showing again 

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362377)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362377_menu)

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362380) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362380)

the flat brimmed gray hat I usually wear is made of Beaver skin.

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362380)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362380_menu)

[**Kian McBrian**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10559-kian-mcbrian/)

* Ship's Master
* 
* 
* Member
* 197 posts
* Location:New York

([IP: 69.206.131.239](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=69.206.131.239)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362400) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362400)

From what I know...Blackjohn is right...during the rev war the hat was either cocked to the side or worn off to the side so that the soldiers could carry the rifle at "order arms". So the rifle was on your right shoulder and the hat (so as not to interfere with the rifle) would be worn over the left eye, or backwards...I would have to consult with my rev war freiends buy=t I am 85% sure this is why the hat was worn this way......I will be back with legit sources later

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362400)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362400_menu)

[**blackjohn**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1144-blackjohn/)

* Iron Age Hero Lost at Sea
* 
* 
* Member
* 3,745 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Columbia, Md
* Interests:Stuff... and junk.

([IP: 74.107.124.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=74.107.124.220)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362401) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362401)

You sort of have it... with "Order Arms" the musket is carried in the right hand, the hand grasping the cock and trigger guard with the trigger guard turned forward. Because the hat is worn over the left eye, the right peak is well back enough that it doesn't interfere with the hat. On "Shoulder Arms" the musket is carried on the left side, the hand grasping the butt, cock in tight, trigger guard pointing backward.

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362401)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362401_menu)

[**hurricane**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/32-hurricane/)

* Pyrate Legend
* 
* 
* Member
* 2,672 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Seattle, Washington
* Interests:Songs of a nautical nature, wine, rum, rum punch, Henry Morgan and Krimson Kat.

([IP: 68.202.193.58](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=68.202.193.58)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362403) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362403)

I guess none of you have tried to kiss a girl with a tricorn on. The backwards wearing makes it far easier to kiss a lass without 1) having her head bump your hat off into the drink and 2) blinding her with the point. :)

(Yes, the voice of experience - lots of one eyed gals in Seattle because of me.) 

-- Hurricane

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362403)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362403_menu)

[**Raphael Misson**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/9117-raphael-misson/)

* Plunderer
* 
* 
* Member
* 449 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Period Surgery. Designing Stuff. Creating Stuff. Positions of power without title.

([IP: 190.92.7.34](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=190.92.7.34)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362406) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362406)

 Capt. Sterling said:

Doesn't get much bigger than the beaver..although my cocked hat's brim is no smaller than yours...

I see your hat...and I'll raise you one. 

(My hat's bigger than yours?)

**Edited June 28, 2009 by Raphael Misson**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362406)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362406_menu)

[**blackjohn**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1144-blackjohn/)

* Iron Age Hero Lost at Sea
* 
* 
* Member
* 3,745 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Columbia, Md
* Interests:Stuff... and junk.

([IP: 74.107.124.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=74.107.124.220)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362407) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362407)

 hurricane said:

I guess none of you have tried to kiss a girl with a tricorn on. The backwards wearing makes it far easier to kiss a lass without... blinding her with the point. :)

Hence the origin of "kissed a girl and made her cry."



* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362407)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362407_menu)

[**oderlesseye**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2503-oderlesseye/)

* Scourge o' the 7 Seas
* 
* 
* Member
* 2,126 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:San Diego, Ca. (North Park) me cove !
* Interests:Oderlesseye is a mutinous two bit sand dollar with a thirst for adventure. Sailing on tall ships, firing black powder weapons, and sword fighting.. I most love to entertain the public in piratical skit presentations that involve all of the above. My name is befitting of my position on board as that of the look-out. Some ask what’s the meaning of the name Oderlesseye...It is simple really.. When Eye am aloft, ye can’t smell me...But it’s spelled wrong some exclaim! Hey now! What pirate can spell? - is my retort!
I have been an active member of the pirate community since 2005. I consider myself a fan of living history in the Golden Age of Piracy. As a child I , like the lot of ye, loved the old time pirate movies with Errol Flynn and Douglas Fairbanks. Long live Long John Silver !
Inspired by them, Eye created a Pirate Ninja Movie called "Treachery and a Dead Mans Promise" Available on YouTube.
Being a pirate, as it turns out, is multi-dimensional. For me, a lifestyle has been carved out of it. There is a six foot tall skeleton pirate in a make shift hide out called Dead Mans Cove behind my house. The walls are painted giving the impression you are in a sea cave. There is a mural of a pirate coming ashore in a long boat at the mouth of the cove. Believe me, it is a great place to enjoy rum now and again!
Exploration into all things piratical have led me to being an attempted escapee from the Governors noose to impersonating a judge in the Anne Bonnie and Mary Read trial held in Pirates In Paradise.. As Oderlesseye, my one on one impression to patrons is as one whom barley escaped the flames of the ship we took when the powder magazine blew with the booty in me hands from the Captains quarters.. The tale explains the soot on me face, the tattered clothing, and the burnt tricorn, as I hand out a gold coin or two. I hate them plastic ones and I know kids appreciate the metal coins even more so.
When an event is slated for a historical time line presentation to the public, I do not do these things mentioned above. Rather, I share about what is a grape shot or how a flintlock works. I ware clothing that is more closely representing the era in these cases. I am still updating me togs (Period Kit) as I learn more thru fellow pirates and sources like the Pyracy Pub.

So far, there have been many exciting moments of adventure the world of PIRACY has afforded me. From standing on a bar top with Pirates Charles singing to me in New Orleans to shooting cannons ( Ships Guns for you PC Pirates!), on the tall ship Spirit of Dana Point. Cheers from a crowd during a show as last man standing on the Treasure chest proclaiming to an excited crowd ITS MINE! THE BOOTY IS MINE ! YARR ! ~ These things and the notoriety that comes with being a pirate has me hooked! Whats More Is the greater bonds of friendships that have been forged with those whose course finds me at such events, sharing the same love and passion of the Life within the pirate/reenactment community. To Them Eye take me hat off and offer a tot of Rum! Cheers mates!

([IP: 72.220.144.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=72.220.144.220)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362414) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362414)

 Quote

**I see your hat...and I'll raise you one.**

**+**

**Edited June 28, 2009 by oderlesseye**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362414)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362414_menu)

[**Kian McBrian**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10559-kian-mcbrian/)

* Ship's Master
* 
* 
* Member
* 197 posts
* Location:New York

([IP: 69.206.131.239](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=69.206.131.239)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362425) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362425)

ahhh thank you for the correction oderlesseye lol. I get the commands mixed up (you would think I would know them in the military but I am a wrench slinger and not carrying a rifle all that often lol), but the miltary did wear tricorns cocked differently than the civilian one for shoulder arms even if the hat is small enough to not really interfer with the rifle.

Maybe thats why somepeople wear baseball caps backwards nowadays....so you dont hit the woman with the brim when you go to kiss them lol

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362425)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/#elControls_362425_menu)

[**Raphael Misson**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/9117-raphael-misson/)

* Plunderer
* 
* 
* Member
* 449 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Period Surgery. Designing Stuff. Creating Stuff. Positions of power without title.

([IP: 190.92.7.34](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=190.92.7.34)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362428) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362428)

 oderlesseye said:

 Quote

**I see your hat...and I'll raise you one.**

**+**



Now, let's see a pic of you wearing it. Sterling and I wear ours all the time. Having a big hat and regularly using a big hat are two different animals - you've got to be used to handling your wind-gathering potential flying saucer!

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362431) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362431)

Fantasy Voodoo??? Now hold on a second... I thought we were discussing pc based on the pictures posted.... 

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362431)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362431_menu)

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362432) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362432)

 Raphael Misson said:

Sterling and I wear ours all the time.

That's right! I even go "swimming" in mine! So's I've got ye all beat...

Seriously though...if anyone ever comes across some period account as to why folks were wearing the hats backwards, please post it... at least we have the drawings...so Mr. Merriweather can proceed with wearing his arsebackwards...

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362432)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362432_menu)

[**Raphael Misson**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/9117-raphael-misson/)

* Plunderer
* 
* 
* Member
* 449 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Period Surgery. Designing Stuff. Creating Stuff. Positions of power without title.

([IP: 190.92.7.34](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=190.92.7.34)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362434) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362434)

 Capt. Sterling said:

 Raphael Misson said:

Sterling and I wear ours all the time.

That's right! I even go "swimming" in mine! So's I've got ye all beat...

It seems to me you tripped at PiP...

I'm actually afraid to get my Patrick Hand original wet...although I've been told it won't hurt it.

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362434)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362434_menu)

**[callenish gunner](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1944-callenish-gunner/" \o "Go to callenish gunner's profile)**

* Scourge o' the 7 Seas
* 
* 
* Member
* 2,138 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Pennsylvania mountains north of Clarion
* Interests:The Callenish gunner has just hoved into view looking for safe anchorage in these waters... purveyor of bladed and flintlock weaponry also leather accessories ..........painter of portraits and period scenes by avocation I'm getting my armoury business underway and will be doing as many festivals as I can ...right now along the east coast or great lakes

([IP: 98.21.71.227](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=98.21.71.227)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362440) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362440)

**One thing I was told about while doing French & Indian War reenacting many years ago was that it kept sparks from your musket from landing in your hat and catching fire especially if it had been waxed to make it waterproof ....not sure how true that is or if that was some superstition passed along by reenactors to recruits....** **That was what I was told of it about 35 years ago anyway**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362440)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362440_menu)

[**Ransom**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2401-ransom/)

* It's Going on Your Permanent Record
* 
* 
* Moderator
* 5,177 posts
* Gender:Female
* Location:The pirate wasteland of Southern OR.
* Interests:I belong to the Barn Owls Writers Group. My husband and I live on 20 acres with four cats, and a two horses, Delight and Apollo — used to have longhorn cattle, sheep, but no more. Our 28' Tollycraft is moored in Charleston harbor. She has no sails, but dreams of being a schooner.

I like to ride my horse doing Medieval gaming, and now mounted archery, and trail course challenges. I also garden, read, do artwork, write, make beaded jewelry for my Website "Found in the Ruins", and go on antique/junk crawls with my husband of 20+ years. I am somewhat of a costume making junkie. Now I make pyrate and steampunk costumes, as well as SCA costumes and horse bardings, and am having WAY too much fun....

([IP: 69.59.202.66](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=69.59.202.66)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362445) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362445)

I don't know about protecting your hat, but it doesn't do a dang thing to protect your face from powder burns. I got my first initiation at Nor Cal, when a piece of the quill blew back and stuck to my face right in front of my left ear. Thought I was being stung by a bee, but then I got my "Duh" moment, and swiped it away. A little Gold Bond Aloe Vera lotion for a few days cleared it right up. Don't think that would do much good on a hat, though. 

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362445)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362445_menu)

[**oderlesseye**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2503-oderlesseye/)

* Scourge o' the 7 Seas
* 
* 
* Member
* 2,126 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:San Diego, Ca. (North Park) me cove !
* Interests:Oderlesseye is a mutinous two bit sand dollar with a thirst for adventure. Sailing on tall ships, firing black powder weapons, and sword fighting.. I most love to entertain the public in piratical skit presentations that involve all of the above. My name is befitting of my position on board as that of the look-out. Some ask what’s the meaning of the name Oderlesseye...It is simple really.. When Eye am aloft, ye can’t smell me...But it’s spelled wrong some exclaim! Hey now! What pirate can spell? - is my retort!
I have been an active member of the pirate community since 2005. I consider myself a fan of living history in the Golden Age of Piracy. As a child I , like the lot of ye, loved the old time pirate movies with Errol Flynn and Douglas Fairbanks. Long live Long John Silver !
Inspired by them, Eye created a Pirate Ninja Movie called "Treachery and a Dead Mans Promise" Available on YouTube.
Being a pirate, as it turns out, is multi-dimensional. For me, a lifestyle has been carved out of it. There is a six foot tall skeleton pirate in a make shift hide out called Dead Mans Cove behind my house. The walls are painted giving the impression you are in a sea cave. There is a mural of a pirate coming ashore in a long boat at the mouth of the cove. Believe me, it is a great place to enjoy rum now and again!
Exploration into all things piratical have led me to being an attempted escapee from the Governors noose to impersonating a judge in the Anne Bonnie and Mary Read trial held in Pirates In Paradise.. As Oderlesseye, my one on one impression to patrons is as one whom barley escaped the flames of the ship we took when the powder magazine blew with the booty in me hands from the Captains quarters.. The tale explains the soot on me face, the tattered clothing, and the burnt tricorn, as I hand out a gold coin or two. I hate them plastic ones and I know kids appreciate the metal coins even more so.
When an event is slated for a historical time line presentation to the public, I do not do these things mentioned above. Rather, I share about what is a grape shot or how a flintlock works. I ware clothing that is more closely representing the era in these cases. I am still updating me togs (Period Kit) as I learn more thru fellow pirates and sources like the Pyracy Pub.

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([IP: 72.220.144.220](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=72.220.144.220)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362448) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362448)

This is ***before period*** but still a good example... 

Well Ok ~ I'll stop monkeying around on ye serious discussion Mr. Sterling..

Eye just couldn't resist the temptation.. So Eye will just read this thread from here on out.

Eye would like to see a few more historic pics too about how a hat was worn..

I cling to originality of the person wearing the hat to express ones self. The use of fire arms is

a pretty strong explanation too.

***Oderlesseye at the Haunted Head Saloon drinkin his Rum with his hat on Backwards..***

**Edited June 28, 2009 by oderlesseye**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362448)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362448_menu)

[**MarkG**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10527-markg/)

* Pyrate Captain
* 
* 
* Member
* 587 posts
* Location:Ohio

([IP: 76.181.80.68](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.181.80.68)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362449) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362449)

 callenish gunner said:

**One thing I was told about while doing French & Indian War reenacting many years ago was that it kept sparks from your musket from landing in your hat and catching fire especially if it had been waxed to make it waterproof ....not sure how true that is or if that was some superstition passed along by reenactors to recruits....** **That was what I was told of it about 35 years ago anyway**

I can't say for F&I but when you are firing a matchlock you get sparks (actually pieces of burning match) blown all over. If you have any synthetic fabric on then it will have a hole melted in it. I've seem people wearing extra match on their bandoleer have the match lit this way.

If you are wearing a cocked hat with a matchlock then the military way of firing was to touch the brim of your hat to your musket stock to protect your face (soldiers don't aim, anyway). As someone else pointed out, the hat is cocked on the left side so it doesn't get in the way when you shoulder your piece.

Mark

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362449)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362449_menu)

[**Mr.Tignor**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10369-mrtignor/)

* Ship's Master
* 
* 
* Member
* 102 posts
* Location:Portsmouth, zee silly english colony of virginia
* Interests:I can only be described as a history loving nerd. I like anything with the word "star" in the title, i read comics, watch anime, and annyyttinng else you could get thrown in a locker for LOL. As for reenacting, iv only be at it a year, buutt i am quite committed to trying for an accurate portrayal. Im still working on the finer details of my persona, but im trying for a french impression(without butchering the accent). Later on in time i internd to also do some events in the fur trade era. More details as i figure them out, Cheers mates!

([IP: 70.160.22.197](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=70.160.22.197)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362454) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362454)

dear me, there seem to a number of possible reasons(and alot of big hats! lol). I thank you guys for the photos, for i was really wondering if anyone else actually did it. hhuuuummm i think i might have to make a trip to colonial williamsburg, see what their historians have to say on the matter(youd be surprised how much they like to talk...or...mabey you wouldnt....)

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
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[**LadyBarbossa**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/408-ladybarbossa/)

* Wealth Redistributor & Mischief Making
* 
* 
* Moderator
* 4,641 posts
* Gender:Female
* Location:The Land Between Two Rivers, aka Iowa
* Interests:18th c Piracy to American Revolution, Victorian Thespians, Equitation, tigers, Friesians, cooking, playing my viola & music in general. Researcher of Major General Baron Johann de Kalb. LOVES the Phantom of the Opera (who's also Brethren)! Transformers, Stargate, Star Trek, Star Wars, NCIS, Bones, The X Files

([IP: 67.224.49.9](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=67.224.49.9)) · · 

[Posted June 28, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362457) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362457)

I'll raise ye on that hat wager. and yes, it's a massive challenge to keep th' hat on one's head.

I'm sure there are many practicalities to this fashion.

~Lady B

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362457)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362457_menu)

[**Capt. Sterling**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2648-capt-sterling/)

* Sticky Fingers Sterling Needs a New Hat
* 
* 
* Member
* 10,302 posts
* Gender:Pyrate Hunter
* Location:here
* Interests:Killing pirates, haven't met one yet worth keeping alive....

([IP: 76.5.83.81](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=76.5.83.81)) · · 

[Posted June 29, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362478) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362478)

 Raphael Misson said:

It seems to me you tripped at PiP...

I'm actually afraid to get my Patrick Hand original wet...although I've been told it won't hurt it.

Aye tripped at PiP, it blew in at Deltaville, I was thrown in later, then I and it were thrown in at Pohick... hmmm I see a pattern emerging here...

odds are the Hand Hat would survive, but I sure wouldn't want to have to reblock it...

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362478)
* [Options](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2#elControls_362478_menu)

[**Ivan Henry aka Moose**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10690-ivan-henry-aka-moose/)

* Plunderer
* 
* 
* Member
* 486 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:tampa, fl
* Interests:Bicycles
Travel
Wine
Beer
Good Food
Pizza!
Pirate Stuff
Design

([IP: 65.32.145.42](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/modcp/ip-tools/&ip=65.32.145.42)) · · 

[Posted June 29, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362563) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362563)

Here's some "backass" reference I've found:

Scottish pirate Alexander Selkirk from I believe, the GAOP, but not sure.

The calvary even get into the game. 1704 look to the right

At least three of Woodes Roger's men sporting the gang signs.

A little outside the GAOP... just a wee bit.

and just for the hell of it - THIS IS a HAT! Caspar Luyken 1703

Whew... I'm tired....

**Edited June 29, 2009 by Mooseworth**

* [Quote](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&page=2)
* [Edit](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=editComment&comment=362563)
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[Posted June 29, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362567) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362567)

A hearty thank you Mr.Mooseworth, very helpful indeed, and new to my eyes! I just wish one of them showed why..... I asked one of the professors at William and Mary who specializes in 18th century history, and he couldnt ascertain why it was done(but he knew it was), he said hell get back to me lol.....

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[Posted June 29, 2009](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=findComment&comment=362569) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/15422-cocked-hats-backwards/&do=reportComment&comment=362569)

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Why do some people wear their pants around their knees? While there may have been an actual functional reason, I myself believe (no real proof) that we have seen so many minute men that we think the point in front is "the correct" way. Just as we may think a baseball cap brim is supposed to point forward. Based on the number of ways hats were cocked and further the sheer number of style of hats, I may surmise that it was just another way to wear a hat. Not right nor wrong. Possibly born out of a reason, but evidently sailors weren't the only ones doing it.