

*So . . . You are going to wear the kilt . . . another source!*

So, you are interested in things Scottish and Celtic OR you have Scottish ancestry, in particular MacLaren, and you have decided that you want to wear a kilt in MacLaren tartan. Now, where does one go to fulfill this desire without bankrupting the old bank account? Believe it or not, it can be done for under \$100.00 USD!!!!

You are probably beginning to think that someone has been tasting too much single malt but you would be mistaken. You go to your computer and get on the Internet and, using your favorite search engine, look up “www.StillwaterKilts.com.”

Once you have arrived, you will find that you can get most of that Highland attire in MacLaren tartan including kilts, stockings, belts and buckles, garters with flashes, sporrans and sporrans belts, etc. Then you look at the bottom line and say, “Bring it on!”

You have your choice of two kilts in MacLaren tartan. Their first entry is their “Thrifty-Kilt.” This line has the following features:

- Convenient velcro waistband – infinitely adjustable
- Adult and Children’s sizes
- Bottom edge is traditional selvedge, not hemmed
- Fully pleated in back
- Fringe on front apron edge
- Made from easy-care acrylic fabric
- Range of sizes (Small [30-34 inches] to 4XL [54-58 inches] in 4 inch increments)

Now here is the important information. The cost of this kilt is \$27.95 plus shipping and insurance. There is no mistake in that number!

The second kilt available that is more for the money is their “Standard Kilt.” This kilt line has the following features:

- Made from a full 7-8 yards of fabric
- Bottom edge is traditional selvedge, not hemmed
- Deep first pleat and reversed final pleat
- Three wide leather straps and cast buckles
- Belt loops – that actually fit a wide kilt belt
- Double-row offset fringe on front apron
- Full-width comfort lining – extends down 12 inches
- Pleated to sett
- Made from easy-care acrylic fabric
- Matching fly plaids usually available
- Sizes: Even sizes from 30 to 52 inches in 2 inch increments
- Measure snugly with tape measure at the navel

Now, here is the price and, again this is not a typographical error, \$80.00 plus shipping and insurance. I ordered one and the order was processed in one day with shipping by USPS Priority

Mail (3-4 business day delivery). I received the package less than 5 business days later. The total was \$92.35 to Baltimore, Maryland. Stillwater Kilts also included a set of MacLaren tartan flashes at no additional charge. The garters themselves were not much to write home about but it's the MacLaren tartan flashes on the garters that count. The flashes simply slide off and you slide them onto your own elastic garters.

If you have children and you want them in MacLaren tartan kilts, your ship has come in and the fare will not break the bank. StillwaterKilts offers youth-sized kilts in the same acrylic tartan fabric. Sizes are: Small – 18-22 inch waist, 12 inches long; Medium – 22-26 inch waist, 16 inches long; Large – 26-30 inch waist, 20 inches long. Again, measure snugly at the navel to get the size needed. The youth kilts also use velcro closures. For sizes above the Youth Large, you get into the Thrifty Kilt line and the sizes start at 30 inches with the kilt itself being 24 inches long. Prices on the Youth kilts are \$16.95 to \$19.95.

As indicated, the delivery was days, not weeks. The kilt fits fine. The aprons and the selvedge edge will need pressing to remove the creases from shipping. You may also have to enlarge the holes in the leather straps slightly for the tongue of the buckle to fit easily. If you don't have leather punches, find a Boy Scout Leatherwork merit badge counselor. The fabric itself is lighter and a softer "feel" than 13-oz. worsted wool. According to the care information included with the kilt, you have two options for cleaning your kilt: your washing machine or the dry cleaner! !

When one is having a kilt made in traditional Scottish wool kilting fabric, the beginning price is about \$400.00 and then can go up from there with a rather long delivery time (6 or more weeks) depending on what company is making the kilt.

There is also a Fly Plaid (\$39.00) available in acrylic MacLaren tartan. This item is fringed with the traditional purled or twisted fringes, not just self-fringed.

For a "starter" kilt, the money talks and StillwaterKilts.com is definitely a source to consider for the first-time MacLaren tartan kilt buyer.