

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

Costume Plot

- Major General Stanley:** Important character. Very pompous, middle aged, father of Mable, etc.
- First Costume: British General uniform. Red coat; black trousers, gold stripe on side; medal and augelettes on breast; cocked hat with white plume; gold velvet waist belt; sword; gloves, monocle; and silver grey wig.
- Second costume: Dressing gown; white night cap with long tassle.
- Pirate King:** The dominating character. Very fierce and wild looking.
- One costume only. Red semi-military three quarter length coat, open at front, auppelletes on shoulders; red riding breeches; high black Wellington boots; brightly striped shirt, ballet collar, black kerchief tie; wide waist belt; shoulder belt; cutlass; pistol; gauntlets; high Napoleon shaped hat, red, with black eagle feathers protruding up from crown, skull and cross bones on front; long black shoulder length curled wig; long black moustache.
- Frederick:** Young and handsome, apprentice to the King.
- First costume: Care must be taken that this costume does not look like the other pirate as he should be smartly dressed. Blue cloth cutaway coat with white facings on front and cuffs; white ballet shirt; black kerchief tie; white tight fitting breeches; white gaiters; waist belt; shoulder belt; four cornered hat, with skull and cross bones on center front.
- Second costume: A smart plain black Muzzar coat; dark red breeches; black Muzzar boots. No hat.
- Samuel:** Henchman to the Pirate King. Very fierce looking.
- One costume only. Dark homespun Square Cut coat, or Cutaway Geo. III style, large cuffs; dark ballet shirt; red kerchief tie; high boots; waist and shoulder belts; two pistols; large hat with skull and cross bones; dark beard.
- James:** Pirate. Same style as Samuel.
- Sergeant of Police:** The Comedian. Does not appear until the Second Act. Usually a large, fat man, with red, round features.
- One costume only. English Bobby style uniform (the long coat is the correct style, but not always

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essential). Duty stripes on cuff of left sleeve; and also three gold stripes of chevron on each arm; helmet; baton; belt; white gloves; and red crop wig.

Chorus Men:

All the men are usually Pirates in the first act, but approximately twelve of them change to police in the second act. The Pirates should all be wild, fierce looking characters, heavily made up with dark tan powder, assorted beards and moustaches, scars, black eyes, etc.

Assorted coats as Homespun Square Cut coats; cloth George III coats; leather boleros; and Nelson sailor type jackets. Note all coats should be very plain. Baggy trousers; high boots; or hose and buckled shoes; wide waist belts; bright ballet shirts; pistols; cutlasses; toques or pirate hats with skull and cross bones.

Police Chorus:

Appear only in the Second Act.

Same style as Sergeant, but minus chevrons and red wig.

Ruth:

Piratical maid of all work. Rather plump and middle aged.

One costume only. Long, full, brightly colored skirt, with full petticoat; ragged blouse; black velvet bodice, laced up front; wide belt; dagger, grey wig; kerchief; and large black hat with skull and cross bones.

Mabel:

General Stanley's daughter. In love with Frederick. Young and beautiful.

Very pretty organdy or taffeta dress with tight fitting bodice, puffed sleeves, and full, frilled skirt; or if desired; crinolines may be used. Contrasting large brimmed mohair hat.

Second Act: Nightgown, or kimona and night cap.

Edith:

Daughters of General Stanley.

Kate:

Costumes the same style as Mabel, in contrasting

Isabel:

colors. Nightgowns or kimonas for the second act.

Chorus Ladies:

First costume: Same style as Mabel, in pretty pastel shades.

Second Costume: Nightgowns and kimonas, and night caps.

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PROPERTY LIST

Large black Pirate flag, with skull and cross bones.

Large Union Jack flag.

Old fashioned candle sticks for girls.

Old fashioned lanterns for the police.

Drinking mugs for the pirates.

Cards, dice, etc., for pirates.

Bag for Samuel.