Persons taking their first Cambridge degree wear appropriate gowns (in the case of undergraduates, their undergraduate gown), with the hood of the degree to be taken. The hoods clearly indicate the degrees sought by graduands.

Under no circumstances should a gown of another institution/College be worn

**THE HOOD**

The hood denotes the degree to be taken as follows:

- **BA.**: Black cloth and white fur; the fur used is artificial
- **B.Th.**: Black cloth, black silk and white fur
- **M.Eng.**: Black cloth lined with bronze silk;
- **M.Sci.**: Black cored silk lined with pink silk shot with light blue.
- **LL.M.**: Black cored silk lined with light cherry silk
- **M.Math.**: Black cloth lined with slate blue silk

**DRESS (OPTION ONE)**

- A **plain** black suit. The suit **MUST** be dark enough not to contrast obviously with a black gown. A black dinner jacket and trousers are permitted.
- A plain, long-sleeved, collared, white shirt. If you wear a dress shirt, studs should be unobtrusive.
- Plain belts may be worn, with no fancy buckles.
- Formal black shoes. Sandals are not permitted. Shiny buckles, decoration or patches of colour must be avoided. Unpatterned black socks.
- White bow-tie and bands **must** be worn; these can be hired from your gown outfitter
- The hood is worn as a ‘choker’ rather than forming a V. The front of the hood sits below the collar, under the bands.

**DRESS (OPTION TWO)**

- A **plain** black skirt suit or trouser suit or plain black skirt without a jacket or a plain black long-sleeved dress. These **MUST** be dark enough not to contrast obviously with a black gown.
- A plain, long-sleeved, white shirt or blouse, with long or three-quarter length sleeves and a high neck. Buttons should be unnoticeable.
- If a skirt or dress is worn this must be at least knee length but may be full length. It should be sufficiently full for you to be able to kneel. A black or white cardigan may be worn but sleeves must be long.
- Plain belts only may be worn at the waist, with no fancy buckles.
- Formal black shoes. Sandals are not permitted. Shiny buckles, decoration or patches of colour must be avoided.
- Unpatterned black, nearly-black, tights must be worn with a dress or skirt. Unpatterned black socks with a trouser suit.

The front of the hood should form a ‘V’ with its point about 3-6 inches below the collar. A convenient button on the blouse may be used as an anchor, or the hood may be attached by means of safety pins. **Please bring 3 large safety pins with you on the day.** It is preferable that cotton or polyester/cotton blouses are worn since safety pins can damage delicate fabrics.
A white bow-tie and bands may be worn (optional) but only with a properly collared white shirt and the hood is then worn as a ‘choker’ as in Option One.

A black cassock may be substituted for a dark suit, skirt or dress in either Dress One or Two, but it must be worn with either a white bow-tie and bands or a clerical collar and bands.

Additional Notes:

Handbags and umbrellas must not be brought into the Senate House (can be left with your guest/s).
The square cap, or ‘mortarboard’, is optional for graduands but should NOT be worn in the Senate House.
The only items of jewellery permitted are wedding and engagement rings; necklaces should be worn under the dress. Earrings must be small studs only - the dangling type must not be worn. Neither coloured nail varnish nor heavy make-up should be worn. Exaggerated hair colourings should be avoided.
Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back and bows and slides must be plain black and not decorative.

RECOMMENDED GOWN OUTFITTERS

Ede and Ravenscroft, 70 - 72 Trumpington Street, Cambridge
You can hire online at www.gownhire.co.uk or call 01223 861854

A.E. Clothier 7 Pembroke Street, Cambridge Telephone: 01223 354339
Ryder and Amies 22 King’s Parade, Cambridge Telephone: 01223 350371

Graduands should note that they are responsible for ordering their own gown and hood. It is also your responsibility to collect these prior to the rehearsal and return these as directed by your supplier. Those hiring from Ede & Ravenscroft are advised to see the programme for further details.
For further information on Academic Dress please see:
http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/students/studentregistry/current/newstud/graduation/dress.html