



The Tartan Register woven sample archive. Crown copyright: NRS

REGISTERING A TARTAN

You can register new tartans online at the Tartan Register website www.tartanregister.gov.uk.

1. You need to create a *User Account* with the Register.
2. Complete and submit an application form. Your application must include a threadcount for your tartan and an electronic image of your design, and you must pay the application fee.
3. We process your application, checking that your tartan meets the criteria for registration.
4. If your tartan meets the criteria, we will add the tartan to the Register and issue a certificate.

The application fee is specified in the Scottish Register of Tartans Act 2008 and the related Fees Order. The fee is exempt from VAT.

A design becomes a tartan when it is woven, and we ask all registrants to submit a woven sample of their tartan as soon as one is available. Woven samples will be used to improve the graphic of your tartan displayed on the Register and will then be permanently preserved alongside the Scottish national archives in the National Records of Scotland.



BR/LIB(S)/3/2/13: Illustration from a travel brochure, early 20th century. Reproduced by kind permission of the British Railways Board. Crown copyright: NRS

SCOTTISH REGISTER OF TARTANS

Correspondence and enquiries relating to the Register should be sent to:

The Scottish Register of Tartans
The National Records of Scotland
HM General Register House
2 Princes Street
Edinburgh
EH1 3YY

Email: enquiries@tartanregister.gov.uk

Telephone: (+44) 0131 535 1395

Website: www.tartanregister.gov.uk



National
Records of
Scotland

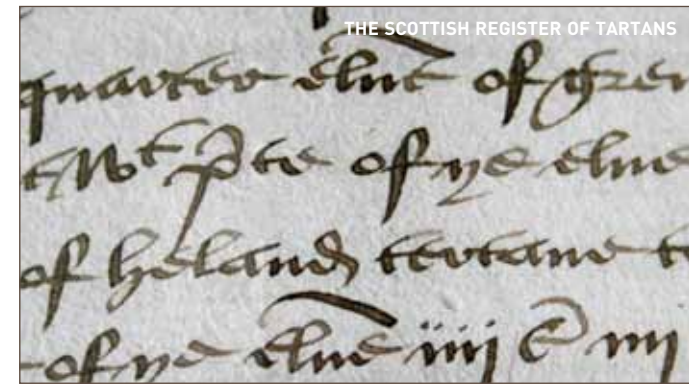


THE SCOTTISH REGISTER OF TARTANS





RH19/36: A piece of Bonnie Prince Charlie's plaid.
Crown copyright: NRS



E21/34: The first recorded reference to 'Highland tartan' in the Treasurer's accounts for King James V, 1538. Crown copyright: NRS

THE SCOTTISH REGISTER OF TARTANS

The Scottish Register of Tartans was established by an act of the Scottish Parliament in 2008.

The Register aims to promote and preserve information about registered tartans, to be a focal point for tartan research and to support the tartan industry in Scotland.

For more information about tartans, or about the Register, and for more details about registering a tartan, visit the website www.tartanregister.gov.uk.

TARTAN

Tartan is a symbol of kinship and belonging for Scots throughout the world, and its simplicity and striking design make it instantly recognisable and infinitely adaptable. The last three centuries have seen tartan transformed from Highland garb, proscribed for nearly fifty years as the uniform of rebels and traitors, to a fabric that now represents 'Scottishness' to the world.

Following over 200 years of informal codification and recording of tartans, the Scottish Parliament passed the Scottish Register of Tartans Act in November 2008. The Register went live on 5 February 2009 at www.tartanregister.gov.uk.

The Scottish Register of Tartans is administered by the National Records of Scotland and the Keeper of the Records of Scotland is now also the Keeper of the Scottish Register of Tartans.

CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION

New tartans must meet the criteria for registration set out in the Scottish Register of Tartans Act:

- New tartans must meet the definition of tartan contained in the Act: *a design which is capable of being woven consisting of two or more alternating coloured stripes which combine vertically and horizontally to form a repeated chequered pattern.*
- The design of a new tartan must be unique to the Register, and not too similar to any other tartan already recorded.
- The name of the tartan must be unique to the Register and the applicant must be able to demonstrate his or her relationship with the proposed name.
- The application fee must accompany the application to register the tartan.

Please note that intellectual property rights in the UK have not been devolved. For further information on registering intellectual property rights, please visit the UK Intellectual Property Office at www.ipo.gov.uk.