

Straps and fastenings

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In Dragonbane world some solutions are different than what we are used to in usual life. For example metal fastenings are not common, and metal brooches are not used in these parts of the world of Valenor. Metal buckles are very rare and are sometimes used in armour fastenings. Generally other solutions should be sought especially in clothing. Belts and straps included other solutions can be used.



Pictured above is, amongst other things, a costrel (drinking vessel) and a horn used to rally troops or give warning. Both have a leather shoulder strap attached with leather laces. The helmet peeking out at the right has the same arrangement on its chinstrap. This is quite common for instance on reproduction Viking helms.

You can make the leather straps overlap more to make them more adjustable, but it is rarely necessary on things like shoulder straps. More adjustable straps might be more useful on armour.

Another way to make simple, small straps is to cut a strap to the desired length with another 10-20 cm allowed for tying it off. Two small slits are made in one end of the strap, the other end is split down the middle. Make sure to cut it down far enough so that you can tie it off nice and tight. However, don't cut too far or you'll just weaken the strap.



This is a medieval technique used on 13th century sword belts. The knot is called a swallow's tail' and is made by making a simple bow tie (the sort you use to tie your shoelaces), but with only one loop. There are many variations on the knot, of course.



Here is the helmet pictured above, seen from the side. It's a munitions-grade (cheaper) reproduction of a Vendel-period helm. The strap is adjustable by tying it off higher or lower. Holes can be added or left off the strap as desired, of course.

Below are some close-ups of the wider straps.

