Gowns

New students need to obtain an academic gown in time for the Matriculation Photograph, they are always worn at Formal Hall and at major College events. The prices charged by individual robemakers vary a great deal in respect of a single gown, which makes it difficult to quote costs. Second-hand gowns can sometimes be obtained from the Graduate Union www.gradunion.cam.ac.uk although they only have a limited number available.

The main suppliers of gowns are Ede and Ravenscroft – https://www.edeandravenscroft.com/ and Ryder and Amies - https://www.ryderamies.co.uk/

Which gown you should purchase and wear depends on your circumstances:

- If you already hold a degree from the University of Cambridge (a BA or Master's degree, for instance) then you are only entitled to wear the gown of that degree, regardless of the options below.
- Research students who are graduates of other Universities who have not attained the age of 24, and have the status of B.A., wear the Cambridge B.A. gown, but without "strings".
- Research students who are graduates of other Universities and who have attained the age of 24, have the status of M.A. They wear the Cambridge M.A. gown, but without strings.
- Gowns from other Universities may not be worn.

Students are expected to wear suitable smart clothes with the gown on any occasion when academic dress is required. No head-dress except the square cap is permissible with the gown. It is not compulsory to purchase, or at any time, to wear a square cap. (Indeed, it is unusual to see one, except when they are worn by the Praelectors of colleges and Proctors in the Senate House.) However, there are special regulations concerning the dress to be worn in the Senate House when being presented for a degree.