My folk costume

I woke up very excited and joyful that morning because it was a special day – the day of my wedding. I was going to wear a bit different, actually ceremonial, folk costume. While I was putting on all the three underskirts, my mum brought me a beautiful white *šlarna* *rubača.* This is a skirt made of charming white lace. That was the first time we bought a special material for *rubača.* Usually we weave the fabric for our clothes on a loom. I put on a white embroidered *fertun* (an apron) over *rubača*. It was the most beautiful apron I had ever seen. My mum braided my hair and pulled it up into a bun at the top of my head. She tied *parta* around my head – a textile hair band adorned with purchased beads, colorful bows and *fureš* - tiny golden springs. *Parta* was trimmed with narrow lace. Considering I am from a noble family, over a white *švabica* (a white shirt with narrow sleeves) I put on *kararaža.* This is a short coat made of blue cloth decorated with petrol blue ribbons and red cloth, a sign that a woman belongs to a noble family.

My mum entered the room bringing the most important detail: my floral bridal crown, *kitice.* I was putting on my best *opanci* (traditional leather shoes) when I heard the clatter of horses' hooves and the sound of tamburitza. They came for me!

We joyfully headed towards the church. The wedding was both lovely and solemn. We left the church singing and came to my new home, my husband's house. In the middle of the yard there was a chair. I was about to get my first *poculica,* a small round cap which every married woman wears on her bun. It was decorated with golden and silver beads, *kraluž* (a string of red corals),artificial flowers, hairpins with quivering ornaments, *fureš*, and trimmed with a red band and white lace. My mum and my maid of honor solemnly took off my *kitice* and *parta* and put on *poculica* and a silk veil over it. With that I finally became a married woman.

My mum shed a tear, I was happy, and the wedding lasted till the morning.

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