

**DREI TOLLE TAGE:
Faschingsfreitag, Faschingssamstag, und Faschingssonntag**

Karneval celebrations, the second crazy day, one will find outlandish costumes an essential part of German parades, processions, and balls. Many balls are theme based, which can mean anything from striped underwear and painted faces, to formal evening gowns, black ties, and tuxedos.

Clown costumes are a favorite at the Karneval celebrations in Cologne, German. People also wear fools' caps, or kappen. During the costume balls in Munich, masqueraders often wear costumes that were typical of the elaborate balls held in Venice, Italy, during the 1500s and 1600s. Favorites in Mainz, in the Rhineland, are costumes portraying political mockery of all kinds.



Costumes. Since a Maskenball will follow the "ceremonies" of the Sitzung, everyone should come in a costume and a mask. The disguise plays a very important part at a Maskenball. In Germany, only very few costumes represent strictly German characters such as Eulenspiegel and Hanswurst. In general they are typical of any costume party in any western country, as a matter of fact, there are cowboy and Indian costumes by the dozens. Anyone can come up with SOMETHING, but masks ARE essential.

Carnival Costumes

Prince Carnival (Prinz Karneval) and his guard (Bauer): White or pink military uniforms of the early eighteenth century.

Maiden (Jungfer): Boy dressed as a girl with long hair, wearing an eighteenth century dress.

Narren: Grottesquely clad creatures with masks.

Gschell-Narren: Narren with sets of ball-shape bells of various sizes (*G'schell*) worn around the neck, waist, or on straps across the back and chest. They crack whips, twist and shout, and jump. One or several have a hobby horse tied around the waist.

Federhannes: Wears a headdress of colored feathers.

Schantele: Wear masks depicting half-sadness, half-joy. They hop along in rhythm to the music with walking sticks and umbrellas.



Jetzt kommt die Zeit der großen Kostümbälle. Auf dem Foto die Damischen Ritter.

