

# District EDINBURGH

Gaelic Name

**Dun Eideann**

Tartan Designer Councillor Hugh Macpherson

Date 1970

Edinburgh, the historic capital of Scotland, has been called the ‘Athens of the North’ because it too has a series of hills and a long dedication to learning and the arts. In earliest time, men built a defensive position on the high steep rock that dominates the skyline. With the southern expansion of the Kingdom of the Scots Edinburgh became the principal residence of the monarch and, eventually, the capital city. It was extended in the late 1700s with the addition of the Georgian ‘New Town’, now the central area of Edinburgh.

The Castle looms above a modern city remarkable for its richness of history and culture. Visitors can see St. Margaret’s Chapel, the oldest building there and still hear the cannon signal the hour at 1 pm. Recent excavations nearby have shown evidence that the Romans once occupied the castle site. The Edinburgh Festival and the Tattoo are favorites of visitors from all over the world. There are numerous museums in the city and it is the home of one of the world’s great universities.

Several attempts have been made to develop a special tartan for residents or visitors. None had success until the design of the Edinburgh tartan by Councillor Hugh Macpherson on behalf of Hugh Macpherson Ltd. In 1970 on the occasion of the Commonwealth Games. It is symbolic and represents the colors of Edinburgh as follows:

Black	The city’s colors and the school colors of the Royal High
White	ditto
Maroon	George Watsons and Hearts F.C.
Green	Hibs, H.C., Holy Cross Academy and by adding black, Boroughmuir
Blue	Edinburgh Academy, Heriots, Portobello Secondary and Edinburgh Curling Club
Scarlet	Complementary to some of the above colors

*Taken from “District Tartans of Scotland”, by Gordon Teall & Philip Smith, Shephard-Walwyn (Publishers) Ltd.*

This clan information sheet has been prepared by  
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