

## Costume information – Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits

The following advice is provided in the script. We hope to stick fairly closely to this. Harem pants are available cheaply from Amazon or costume suppliers eg:



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**Bless**  
Boys Harem Ali Baba Trousers Printed Plain Costume Play Baggy  
Pants 4-13 Years Kids Childrens  
★★★★★ 31 customer reviews

Price: £4.95 - £5.95  
Fit: As expected (83%)  
Size: Select Size Chart

Colour: Black

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Strangely, there also seem to be plenty of Fezzes available from Amazon too.

### **COSTUMES**

The traditional styles of ancient Arabia can be used to great effect when costuming this show, with plenty of harem pants and head-gear! These are cartoon characters, so rather than attempt historical or cultural accuracy, try to achieve a fun and colourful look that sets the show firmly in the ancient time and place of its origins. For example, some characters, including Ali himself, wear a Turkish fez which, although not traditionally Arabian, works brilliantly on stage - and forms the basis of several jokes!

Colourful costuming is essential, but to avoid the 'explosion in a paint factory' look, try to stick to a few key colours: red, emerald green, black, white and gold, as a main colour scheme. It is also useful and effective to colour-code costumes:

**Alakazam, the traders and citizens** could wear red harem pants, a baggy emerald green t-shirt worn over the pants and a gold sash tied around the waist,

**Bandits** could wear black harem pants, red and black stripy tops worn over the pants, a black sash & waistcoat and a red fez.

**Balthazar Bongo** needs to look slightly different to the rest of his gang, but it is important to stick to the same colours – he could wear black & red striped harem pants, a black top and a black or red sash and a red fez.

The comical characters of **Dusty and Sandy** could be enhanced in "sand dance" fashion, with knee-length white trousers, red and white stripy socks, white sleeveless vest, red braces and a red fez, finished off with optional matching moustaches!

White and gold are excellent colours to show power and wealth and are therefore obvious choices for the **Sultan, Princess & also the Sheiks**. The **Princess** could be dressed entirely in gold with harem pants and a crop top with lots of sequins and thin glittering material as a head scarf or veil. The **Sultan and the Sheiks** could be dressed similarly with white harem pants and tops with gold accessories. The Sultan could also have a gold turban and a large tummy by way of a cushion.

The Sheiks could have traditional head scarves, large black beards and a fun addition can be dark sun glasses which gives them the wealthy celebrity look! All **the servants to the Sultan** could be dressed in black and gold. The **guards** could be dressed completely in black, with harem pants, long sleeved tops and black fezzes but with a gold waist band or sash to show their connection with the wealthy Sultan. The **handmaidens** could wear black harem pants and crop tops with a gold sash round their waists, and gold sequin head and arm bands.

The evil **Grand Vizier** requires a dramatic black costume, with a large cloak and black hood, turban or other headdress. **Booboo's** costume can be easily created by either wearing brown trousers and a top and hood although ready-made furry monkey costumes are easily available for purchase. Either way, face paints are a must!

**Genie** costumes are also available to purchase, but the look can be achieved simply by making harem pants in a glittery material with a bright t-shirt, sash and turban.

**Ali & Flossy Baba** can be dressed similarly to the traders and citizens but in contrasting colours to set them apart.

Mrs Bernard has kindly volunteered to make a **Humphrey costume** but some furry slippers could be the way to complete the look!

I hope this makes sense. The children all have a cast list in their scripts in case you want to liaise with parents of characters with similar costumes. Please do let us know if you need help