European men wore an at-home garment called a *banyan*, influenced by East Asian and Persian robes. This hand-sewn example was made of green silk damassé woven in China. Tailored in the Netherlands to mimic Persian robes, the cut and construction of this banyan, particularly its button closure, is characteristically European. It is fully interlined for warmth.

1. Fabric grain follows vertical lines of graph paper.

2. Pattern pieces are drawn without seam allowance.

3. Eighteen ¾-inch thread-covered buttons border the overlap of a double-breasted front closure in two rows of nine. The proper-left front edge has nine 1¼-inch-long buttonholes. There are no interior buttons or buttonholes to fasten the underlap.

4. Two 9 ½-inch openings along the side-seams access built-in pockets. Each upper pocket is attached to the banyan front, while each under pocket is not attached to the banyan back, creating a side slit that provides access to breeches worn underneath.

5. The banyan is lined with linen plain weave; the collar is lined with silk damassé.

6. The banyan is fully padded with a loosely-woven wool plain-weave interlining.
Man's At-home Robe (Banyan)
Textile: China, 1700–50; robe: the Netherlands, 1750–60

Patterns recreated and drawn by Thomas John Bernard
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