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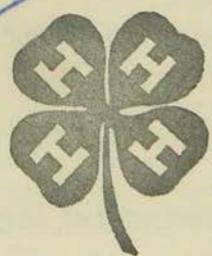
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4-H CLOTHING

Project III

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4-H Clothing Project III

MILDRED SCHENCK and AMY WESSEL

Every girl finds real joy and satisfaction in selecting and making clothes that bring out her personality. A trim, neat, well chosen outfit does much to bring out the natural charm of the erect, graceful girl. Why not study the following points carefully and then begin at once to make plans to carry out the work.

The first thing to be done is to make a list of your dresses, coats, hats, shoes, and underwear. Second, list the colors of these garments. (See your record blank for directions.)

From this list you can decide whether you need a wool, silk or rayon, cotton, or linen dress. Is this dress to be worn to school, or will you be needing one for other purposes?

Before looking for a pattern, you will find it helpful to decide upon:

1. The purpose of the dress.
2. The kind of material to be used.
3. The color that fits in with the things you already have in your wardrobe.

PLANNING THE DRESS

Line and Design

Each individual must decide whether she is tall and slender, short and chubby, or of average height and size.

Vertical lines (up and down lines) make a person look taller, and horizontal lines (those running across the figure) cut the height.

Curved lines have a softening effect on severe features and when used in moderation are particularly desirable for the thin type. Garments with many ruffles or drapes are not suitable for school wear because they require too much pressing.

Color

The color of your hair, eyes, skin, and complexion help in determining your most becoming colors. Following are descriptions of the "cool," "warm," and "in-between" types of persons, with suggested colors for each type. To which type do you belong?

Cool type.—Pinkish skin, golden hair, blue eyes.

Warm type.—Orange flush in skin, brown hair, brown eyes.

In-between type (includes those not true to type).—Skin may be pink or of an orange flush; hair, medium brown; eyes, blue, gray, or brown.

Suggested colors for the various types :

Cool type.—Soft green, soft blue, blue violet, pink.

Warm type.—Beige, orange, red brown, red, bronze, blue green, red purple.

In-between type.—Dark blue, green, red, medium blue, pastels.

To be certain that a color is right for you, try it near your face. The sample should be large enough to go around your neck, and the test should be made in daylight rather than under artificial light.

Accessories

Just what shoes, hose, purses, hats, gloves, jewelry, scarves, and handkerchiefs do you have? The color in any of these may help you decide on a color scheme for your entire outfit. Any new accessories should be planned before selecting your dress pattern and material.

The color, texture, and design of accessories should fit the rest of the ensemble. That is, rough leather gloves, shoes, and purse are suitable for rough fabrics which we find in many of the sport clothes, and smooth leather and silk accessories are used with soft fabrics and furs.

Purpose

Woolen materials are usually used for school dresses and for Sunday wear. The Clothing Project III member may have the problem of making a dress for party or banquet wear. Soft materials of cotton, silk, or rayon may be used for such a dress.

MATERIALS AND DESIGN

The Wool Dress

Materials.—Choose materials of becoming color and design. Firmly woven materials are more durable than loosely woven materials and keep their appearance better. All-wool fabrics wear better than cotton and wool mixtures. Firmly woven wool crepes, poplins, tweeds, and some firmly woven novelty woolens are desirable. They are moderately priced and stay pressed. Wool materials should be preshrunk.

Design.—Materials such as tweed and flannel do not lend themselves to gathers or much fullness, but are suitable for the tailored styles. Well tailored pockets, buttonholes, and stitching make smart trimmings on these materials.

Very soft wools such as wool challis and lightweight wool and rayon mixtures lend themselves to gathers and are used for less tailored styles.

The Silk or Rayon Dress

Materials.—Some very soft materials ravel easily and are hard to stitch and to press. These points should be taken into careful consideration before purchasing.

All-silk materials are hard to get. Rayons and rayon mixtures are replacing the silk materials. Like other materials, good as well as poor-quality rayons are on the market.

Soft, light-colored materials may be used for summer, while darker colors are used more for late fall and winter.

Design.—Soft silks and rayons, as a rule, lend themselves to dainty lines, while the firm silks such as taffeta may be used for the tailored dress.

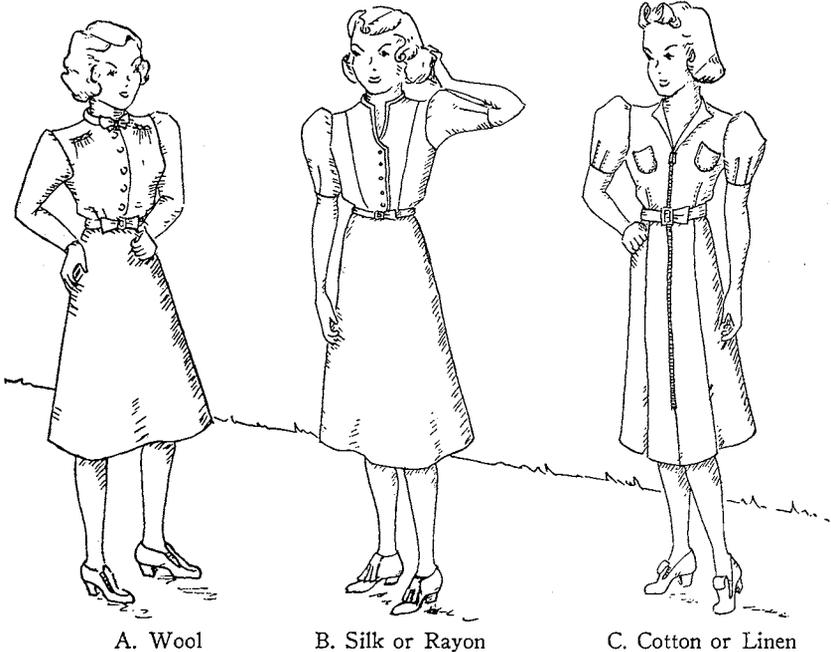


FIG. 1. STYLES SUITABLE FOR CLOTHING PROJECT III

The Cotton or Linen Dress

Materials.—Since the Clothing Project III cotton dress is to be more of a “dress-up” dress than the dresses made in Projects I and II such materials as voile or fine gingham may be used.

Noncrush linens and silk linens may be used for tailored styles.

Preshrunk materials are recommended for Project III work.

Design.—Voiles and fine gingham lend themselves to dainty lines, and tailored styles are good for noncrush linens and silk linens.

MAKING THE DRESS

The same methods should be used for checking the number of pieces in the pattern, the size of the pattern, the laying and cutting out of the material as were used for the previous dresses.

Seams

1. Plain seams are used on bulky materials that ravel easily.
2. Lapped seams may be used on yokes and on waists.
3. French seams may be used on voile and some very fine gingham.

Seams may be single or double-overcasted, pinked, self-stitched, or bound, depending upon the material.

PRESSING

Sometimes garments have a "homemade" appearance because they have not been properly preshrunk and pressed. The following pointers may help you to have good results.

Pressing Equipment

Desirable equipment for pressing wool and silk dresses consists of:

1. Smooth, well padded, sturdy ironing board.
2. A heavy-napped woolen board cloth, securely tied in place.
3. A canvas pressing cloth for pressing woolens.
4. Heavy muslin or tissue paper for pressing silk.
5. Basin of water and a sponge.
6. Heavy wrapping paper to slip under pleats and seams. (This prevents imprints of pleats and seams on the right side.)
7. Tailor's cushions to use in pressing seams, curves, corners, and fullness from top to sleeve.

Pressing Woolens

Stitch and press all seams, and finish thoroughly as you go. The heavier the material, the more steam and the hotter the iron needed. A canvas pressing cloth allows for more moisture and more even distribution of moisture. Always use a cloth or sponge to dampen materials, never use the finger tips. This is a sure method for even distribution of moisture.

Always press woolen materials on the wrong side, with a canvas pressing cloth. Keep iron moving slowly all the time. Press lightly until moisture changes to steam, then use more pressure.

Pressing Silks

Press on the wrong side with warm iron—never hot. In general, do not dampen silk when pressing seams or pleats as it is likely to become stiff. Moisten pressing cloth or tissue paper, and be careful not to waterspot the material. Heavily weighted silks should be pressed slightly, as heat hastens deterioration and causes them to split.

UNDERGARMENTS

The undergarments should be in keeping with the style of the dress. Close-fitting dresses require well fitted undergarments. The undergarments should harmonize in color with the rest of the ensemble. Pastel shades are recommended. These may or may not be of the same color as the dress.

Materials.—Silk, rayon, or very fine cotton materials may be used for the undergarments.

Construction.—The rules for Project II panties and slips are used by the Project III members. Figure 2 contains suggestions for line and design.

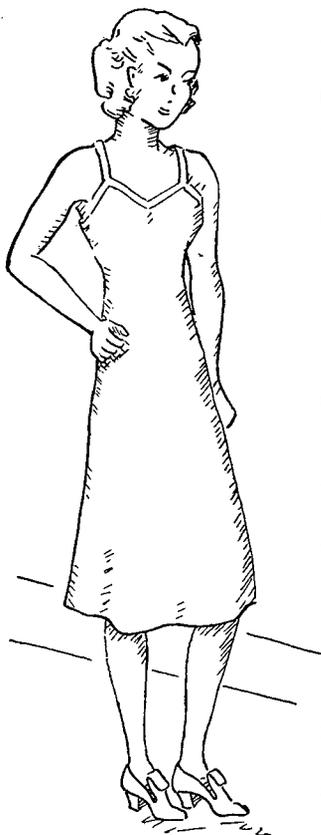


FIG. 2. SLIP STYLE SUITABLE FOR SILK, RAYON, OR COTTON MATERIAL

work of the individual. All of these points will be taken into consideration by the judge. See the state fair catalog for the score card.

THE NOTEBOOK

1. The chart should include either a magazine picture or a tracing of the patterns used for the various articles.
2. Mount uniform-sized samples of materials used for the complete outfit.
3. Underneath samples give the name, price, and width of material.
4. Name the seams used.

DRESS REVUE

Each girl enrolled in the clothing project is urged to take part in the dress revue. Points on which she will be judged are her ability to select patterns, colors, and materials for herself; the fit of the garments, and how well they are made. The record sheet should be complete and give the reader a clear picture of the cost of the ensemble, and the story should tell something of the

PATCHING AND MENDING

The patching or mending may be on one's own clothes or for some other member of the family. Cotton, woolen, silk, or rayon garments may be mended for the Project III requirements. The adult leader may have additional help in the way of literature along these lines.

LAUNDERING

Each member is urged to launder underwear at least three different times during the year. The white cotton materials can be washed with the family wash. Some materials, such as rayon and silk, require more careful handling and should be washed by hand. Mothers and adult leaders will be able to give considerable help along these lines.

HOSIERY

Unless one is careful, hosiery is likely to take a large part of the clothing budget. It is important to buy hose that are a little longer than one's foot. The length of the foot should be taken from the tip of the toe straight back to the heel. Measure the foot of the stocking in the same way.

The length of stockings varies according to the make and size. Some manufacturers try to make stockings in three lengths—28, 30, and 32 inches. After finding the most satisfactory length, it is well to have each pair measured before making a purchase.

Another point to consider is the weight of the hose. One-, two-, or three-thread hose are sheer hose. Four-thread hose are a combination of sheer and service weight. Heavy weights are more suitable with sport outfits than are the sheer hose. Hose with re-enforced toes and soles are most serviceable.

The care of hosiery is very important. Silk stockings are delicate and should be handled and laundered with consideration for their fragility. Launder them in the same way as you did those for Project II clothing.

SHOES

It has been said that women are judged by their hands and shoes. Well kept hands and well clad feet are the essence of good grooming.

Shoes should be selected for both style and comfort. Check these points when selecting shoes:

1. Straight inner line. Hold both shoes in the hands, soles up and inner edges together, with heels and balls touching. The inner lines should be quite straight except for a little slant at the toe.
2. Broad, roomy toe. There should be no pressure from toe cap or seam.
3. Broad low heels. The height should be chosen for comfort and efficiency. If too high heels have been worn, the height should be reduced gradually and proper foot exercise taken.
4. Correct length and width. Have feet measured each time you buy shoes. Take the foot measurement while standing with full body weight on the foot. The length should be one inch longer than the foot and the width not more than one fourth inch narrower.

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