

Men, Boys Are Demanding 'Two for Price of One'

Spring suits, according to the American Institute of Men's and Boys' wear, embody a functional sophistication because it has become more and more evident in recent years that to gain a nod of approval from the practical-minded American male, fashion must be a full partner with function.

This is probably true in all segments of the male wardrobe, but particularly suits, resulting in an era when weight, construction and fabric are constantly improving and there are more good current fashions than ever.

spite the obvious reductions in both weight and bulk. Men can even enjoy tweeds and chevrons again because these soft fabrics now are less weighty, less bulky, but stronger than ever.

IN THE LAST few years, this fashion-plus-function concept has led to the creation of suits that offer a man comfort and style in any season.

The midweight suit, newest in the clothing category, for example, is ideally suited for early Spring and mid-Autumn wear, but it can also be used in a pinch to "spell" a fellow's regular weight suits on those occasional mild Winter days.

One of the greatest assets of these between-season suits are that they offer every style characteristic of the regular weights, de-

THIS HAPPY circumstance stems from blends of traditional wools and worsteds with man-made fibers. Other midweights, both casual tweeds and dressy worsteds, made wholly of natural fibers, feature the same advantages.

How about pattern and color for Spring 1960? According to exhibitors at the annual convention of the National Association of Retail Clothiers and Furnishers, plaids and checks continue to be a strong fashion factor.

They can be found in varying sizes — muted miniatures for the

fellow of conservative tastes, howling giants for the man who wants his style undiluted. Variety is also offered in traditional and novelty stripes, and a broad scale of intricate self-weaves.

IRIDESCENT FABRICS, some with built-in tracing to blends of mohair and other employing silk or cross-weaves and cross-dyes, offer an urbane dresser the desired look of sophistication.

Olive continues to ripen as a fashionable color. Now blended with tans, blues and grays, it provides an almost endless variety of greenish hues. Grays, blues and browns remain one-two-three in order of popularity, with black holding a special niche for men seeking an extra dressy dress-up suit.

The American continental model is now well established as a fashion favorite. Accepted on about equal terms with the ivy model, the continentals — in both their tailored-shoulder and a natural-shoulder versions — rate high with men anxious for an elegant change-of-pace.

EVEN THE CONSERVATIVE American natural model has taken on some continental features such as slightly shortened jackets and more rounded coat fronts.

The authentic ivies, because of their classic nature, keep their traditional lines, but such style gimmicks as lap seams on business suits and back straps and pocket flaps on trousers are gone. There is an increasing trend, however, toward the wearing of matching vests with ivy suits.

Ambassador models, West Coast favorites with their more accentuated concave shoulders, also show the continental influence in many instances, but the acceptance of this style has shown little change, if any, since last season.

A NEWCOMER, the sports or country suit, must be mentioned in any discussion of spring clothing. Usually a three-piece garment, it consists of a coat, a vest pattern with trousers of the same cloth in the dominant shade of the pattern. Other versions include solid-color blazers, matching vests with metal buttons and patterned trousers.

Endless variations are possible with these handsome casual outfits. Many fashion designers see an expanding future for the sports suit because it is dressier than the usual sports jacket and slacks outfit, but more casual than a tweed suit. Incidentally, they come in regular weights, midweights and lightweight — another example of fashion teaming up with function.

Hues in Hosiery Complements All

What ever the color in fashion, new hosiery offers a hue to complement it. Since the whitened colors lead for spring, it follows that the majority of stocking shades are pale and soft — misty greens, rosy pinks, delicate beiges, cloud grays, subtle blues, hazy violets.

ALONG with these hues go the basics — black, often frosted; blue, deepened to blend with navy; other complementary beiges, browns and grays.

Stockings in sparkling nylon introduce a new look for spring.

They are usually in pastel colors, with the built-in luster of the nylon, to coordinate with pastel luster leather shoes.



Appropriate for day and after-five, too, is silk linen maternity dress with empire-banded tunic top, adjustable slim skirt. In Stehli silk.

Beauty Going to Teen Feet

A teen seeking mother's permission to use her first lipstick has a persuasive ally this spring in the new cosmetic-cued shoe shades. Footwear in the powdery tones and chalky undertones of popular beauty aids puts a soft glow at a teen's feet to match the touch of lipstick at her lips.

The cool and subtle cosmetic hues which enhance the high school look this season are available in a variety of perky shoe styles, silhouettes and leather textures, according to Shoe Fashion Service of Leather Industries of America.

THERE ARE casual brushed leather flats in cogné gold—a liquid tonal range from green to

brown—and in foundation creams of white, off-white and beige. Eye shadow green and eye liner blue make their dramatic debut on date shoes in inch-high stacked leather heels.

For more formal wear, with spring gowns in under-the-colors, there are smooth and luster leather pumps in powder peach and lipstick pink.

The soft flexible flat remains the most popular 'round-the-clock shoe.

ONE OF THE newest casual shoes to catch the schoolgirls' fancy is the all-leather "sneaker." The same softly brushed leather is used throughout.

Even in the spring, the teenage



Blazing the Males

The continental silhouette is featured in these two blazers for spring casual wear. Both are in loosely-woven porous wool hapsacking; at left, in heather green; at right in brilliant red. Both have slanted pockets (at left, flapped; at right, lapped) and side vents.

Spring Sportswear Is 'On-the-Go'!

What's exciting in sportswear for 1960? "Separate" separates! Chanel costume look! Madras plaids! Whited and muted colors!

Energetically "on-the-go," spring sportswear echoes a gamut of moods. There are attractive separates for travel, office, school, sports, home and garden—all fashionable and refreshing.

Solids team up with color-coordinated prints, but the trend is toward separates that are truly "separate"—that mix well, rather than match. More and more contrasting fabrics and textures, as well as colors, are used.

MADRAS AND madras-type plaids are everywhere, and maras-like deep tones appear in batik prints of jungle, garden, harlequin and South Sea island derivation. Ginghams, denim and seersucker attract special attention.

Popular is the Chanel look, with easy-hanging jacket, shorter blouse and pleated skirt. Shirtwaists continue in high favor with an interesting use of separates to give a "shirtwaist look."

FULL SKIRTS with unpressed pleats are combined with conventional roll sleeve blouses, cut from the same fabric or a contrasting material. Some add matching jackets.

Although much is made of decorative accents, classic simplicity and air of neatness prevail. Lavish use of embroidery—flowers, mono-

grams, geometric designs—is noted favorably. There are also novel buttons, decorative stitching, ruffled cotton lace and distinctive belting.

A PANTS CRAZE brings them in all lengths. Some are completely lined and stitched along the trouser crease, often showing a side V-slit. Many are decorated and color coordinated—or contrasted—with blouses, jackets, weskits or T-shirts.

Revised is the popularity of culottes and some sport pajamas, reminiscent of the Thirties. Bias cut circular skirts and short pleated play-skirts are also featured. Jumpers, ski-dresses, and one-piece playsuits get spring interest.

Knits are lighter in weight, lacy. Classic cardigans lead the sweater list, with a trend toward tunic length noted.

Casual suits have more slim skirts than full; however, the sheath-like skirt is definitely eased so that it does not ride up or wrinkle across the hip-line.

Cinched Waist, Deep Sleeves Are Stylish

Newsiest style trends in this spring's lovely florescence of dresses are the deep sleeve, cinched waist and rounded hip-line. Enhancing the costume look, jacketed dresses are very impressive. The coat dress is a great favorite.

Silk has a major fashion fabric role. Variations on the shoulder width theme, some lowering of waistlines and adjusting of hems,

bellings of shirtwaists and rippling of pleats all add to spring fashion drama in dresses.

Highlighting top width, sleeves blossom big in bell, three-quarter puffed and wide batwing shapes. There's ample under-arm fullness emphasized in dolman sleeves or loosely draped over-the-shoulder styles. Lower setting of sleeves adds to the popular "dropped shoulder" idea.

THIS designer technique is also played up with removable capelets, large round collars and bi-color sectioning, especially effective on the more popular slim skirts.

Black and white is a leading color combination for spring. White lace ruffles at cuffs and necklines are pretty and feminine. Ruffles have generally gained importance, showing in seamlines and cuffs of after-five dresses and set in tiers on party and evening dresses.

Black dress costumes have white inset bodices and white lined jackets, some reversible.

Shirts Present Wide Variety

Dress shirts made of fabrics that "breathe," sports shirts in solid shades as well as in both woven and printed bolder patterns, are all part of the men's fashion picture for spring.

There are millions of tiny "port holes" in the new dress shirt fabrics that act as a built-in air-conditioning unit in shirts designed for warm weather wear. Known technically as "skiplinks," "elens" and "meshes," these cool fabrics come in colors as well as in the popular whites.

AMONG THE staple and always popular shirtings are the silky broadcloths, the end-and-end madras and, of course, oxfords.

A great many of these shirts are made with half-sleeves this spring, a comfort feature that is increasingly accepted each year. With those short sleeves are an unusually wide choice of collar styles.

Among the newest colors are the "Golden Hues"—soft yellow tones that are often blended with new olive shades and others.

THE SPORTS' SHIRTS accent both solid shades and the newer, bolder prints and woven designs. Every man needs a good assortment of each.

Our special cover picture—taken by The Eccentric's photographer, Chris Luce at Jacobson's apparel store—shows window decorator Robert Mounsey (right) and assistant, Allerton Sowers, making final adjustments to a mannikin's wedding outfit.