

Spring Fashions Cast Femininity in Star Role

From the top of the head to the tip of the toes, the words of fashion are "soft, relaxed and simple".

The image of fashion is one of femininity—in spite of the fact that frills, fuss, flourishes, and ruffles are at a minimum.

Starkly simple dresses are referred to as "pure dresses"—very restrained and ideal for accessorizing. There's the shift dress, the sweater dress and the skimmer. Sheaths, too, have an altogether different look in the season's new soft handling.

ALL THESE THEMES are simplicity personified, and in this lies their elegance.

Fashion has many ways of doing softness—it's in blousing, in bias cuts for bodices and skirts, subtle gathers and restrained skirt fullness.

Equally important are the soft spring fabrics that put fashions closer to the body for the free and easy look.

One of the important new silhouettes is the pullover top that will be seen on many suits as well as on dresses and costumes.

The same general silhouette is carried out in the long, back or front-buttoned overblouse, in belted tunic styles and in nautically inspired middies.

DRESSES FOR daytime and evening too, are often so simply styled that this season's fashions are shrinking the barriers between dress and sportswear stylings.

Raw and rough silks such as tussah and silk linen, twills and shantung and surahs, the many rough-thread fabrics like jute, flax and burlap, all shape up significantly in this feminine mood.

Soft too, are the feminine looks of the shirt dress types in fine cottons, blends of all types, airy voiles, lawn, chambray, broadcloth and seersucker.

In casual dresses, as well as in sportswear, madras is revived in new darker colorings.

FOR EVENING WEAR, the long dress continues to be favored and will be seen in best-dressed circles in chiffons, georgettes, embroidered organdies and sheerest of cottons.

The covered-up look of a high neckline scoots down to a deep-V in back . . . has tiny sleeves, or takes a stole cover up.

Florals and other exciting prints are cued for evening and will be whirling on the spring scene.

For after-five, short evening dresses will continue to be significant, and they will have all the fashion, detail, color and excitement of the season's best!

FROM SIX TO SWEET sixteen and from there, on and on—femmes of all ages find that a "sweater wardrobe" is a must all year long. There are dozens and dozens of new variations on classic sweater themes and they're all exciting.

For example:
• The "spare" look of sleek wool-knit sweaters and tunics have trim, lean, uncluttered lines. Cropped little cardigans and pullovers top

Pastels, Bold Prints For 'Waiting' Moms

If you're destined to play a "waiting" role this spring, count yourself among the lucky . . . for no season is more conducive to keeping you lovely to look at.

Colors are in your favor . . . with fresh pastels that do wonders for your hair and skin. Fashions are slanted your way, too, in cottons with easy upkeep . . . and soft, feminine lines especially flattering to expectant mothers.

Breezy, unencumbered one-piece dresses have become a favorite fashion look in maternity styles . . . and sportswear stresses boldly printed shirts that can be mated with various shades of pants or skirts.

neat flared skirts.

• Bubble-shaping comes in along seat-curving pullovers with bow-gathered fronts and in drawstring pullovers for leisure, sports and after active games.

• Off-side treatments of plaques or contrasting panels are new.

• T-square necks with zippered cardigans and pullovers with zippered plaques gain in popularity.

• Low hem-bands and low-flung pockets . . . twin V-tails and fish-tails, bulkies galore . . . long, short and middling, and don't forget the dividend sweaters with hoods, dickies or companion vests.

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