

Well-suited Wardrobe Has A More Colorful Selection

Getting along with a dark suit for business and another dark suit for dressier occasions labels you as a backward wardrobeist this fall.

Local merchants report the return of the well balanced wardrobe this fall, in which both colorful suits and dark suits have their place and their own virtues—not the least of which is the chance to break up the monotony of the look-alike darks.

There is a lighter and brighter future in store for men's suits this fall. Dark colors will no longer dominate the choices of men seeking to replenish and update their cold-weather wardrobes.

Paced by grays in the medium to light shades, and followed closely by brightened blends of blues, browns and greens, the current clothing fabrics move into a new era of color that, while refreshingly different from the stygian shades of the past, are still within the bounds of good taste and good sense for both business and social occasions.

The importance of this move to colorful, medium shade suitings is emphasized by the fact that it is as true of the sober, traditional natural-shoulder types as it is of the less restricted contemporary styles.

Once again, there is a tremendous number of models from which to choose. While basic silhouettes remain the same, stylists have made subtle changes in button, lapel and pocket treatments and other detailings that, while not too evident to the inexpert eye, have the effect of giving more perfect balance to the suits.

For instance, in the contemporary styles most designers believe that the narrowing down of lapels has reached its limit. As a result, you will find some of the newer suits with slightly fuller lapels—not the bulky, over-emphasized lapels of the past—but lapels that are trim enough to be in the trend without giving a stingy look.

A similar move in the shaping

of lapels took place in many of the traditional natural-shoulder suits (where the trend to slimmness started) more than a year ago.

The most important move in models, however, is toward the greatly increased popularity of the two-button suits.

Here again, in each of the several style categories from the highly styled avant gardes through the sophisticated contemporaries and the conventional middle-of-the-roads, to the classic traditional, this fashion movement is clearly evident.

For the first time in many years the runaway popularity of the three-button models (other than the traditional natural-shoulder styles) will be seriously challenged.

This trend has been attributed to several factors, not the least of which is President Kennedy's preference for two-button suits.

However, regardless of other reasons for the growing acceptance of the two-button styles, it can be safely said that many men, finding some of their clothes in the three-button model, are now ready for a change.

There are, of course, many interpretations of the new two-button trend. Some show the two buttons placed high, almost like a three-button suit with the lower button eliminated.

Others place the two buttons low in a stance that suggests a three-button style with the top button missing. And there are still others that shift the two buttons to a closer stance in the middle area of the coat front.

A new and interesting model has appeared that combines the best features of the traditional natural-shoulder America suit with those of the updated English model.

This style retains the natural shoulders of the American and adds a modified amount of side and back fitting from the British to give the garment a more sophisticated look than its campus cousin.

Too soon to be called a trend, this styling may gather momentum during the coming year.

However, there is one idea of recent revival that has achieved the importance of a fashion fact and that is the country suit or weekend suit.

Usually made of chevots, tweeds or shetlands, these casual suits are frequently made with matching vests and can be worn for less formal business occasions as well as for suburban dates.

Some call these casuals Friday suits in view of the custom of many men to dress down on Fridays as part of the weekend ritual. These casual suits are fine for travel.

The trend to medium tones is even more pronounced in the tweedy suits than it is in the more sophisticated town styles. Obviously, the casual cloths always gave more opportunity for the use of colorful blends. Present tweeds range from mediums to light-mediums in both bold and subtle shades.

As far as new patterns are concerned, look for bigger and bolder plaids, subtle stripes, many small self-weaves and the biggest year within memory for herringbones of all types.

Those conservative chevron-like patterns have taken off in a blaze of style and are now a top fashion.

All in all, clothing for fall 1963 offers a more comprehensive selection than ever. Select from new one, two and three-button suits; light-medium, medium and dark shades; town and country models. You'll need several!



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