

Jeans are the all-purpose pants

Remember when the number of stiff petticoats you wore meant status among your friends?

When Sunday best meant a starched white shirt that you didn't dare to get dirty?

When manners dictated that you stayed neat and tidy all day long?

And, who could forget the hours of fussing — not to mention the ironing — that went into the lacy, ruffled party dress worn to that first "big dance?"

Well, times have changed. Gone are the days of the starched crinoline and white shirts.

Enter: the jeans era. Jeans fit right in with today's free living.

At the forefront of this movement is Garan Inc. — a leading manufacturer of children's fashions, best known for their Garanimals line and its innovative matching animal hangtag and sewn-in label system that speeds up the shopping process and helps children from 2 on up to

dress themselves.

Its formula for jeans: good-looking styling, exceptional quality and all the designer touches kids love.

Available in size ranges from infancy to boys' size 18 and girls' size 14, these jeans sport special features: sparkling pocket trim, soutache stitching, cording, embroidery on the yoke and back pockets and a new touch that's a favorite with toddlers and infants — storybook pockets: embroidery or novelty treatments that tell a tale.

Perhaps jeans' biggest attractions for the younger set and for Mom and Dad as well, are their flattering fit and easy care. For infants and toddlers, jeans with elasticized waistbands are an ideal dressing choice, as they're tough enough to stand up to hours of rough-and-tumble play, yet are easy to launder and completely non-restrictive.

As kids get older, they "grow up in their jeans," and this versatile ward-

robe item may create many attractive looks that are right for any occasion.

A preteen girl shows up at a party dressed in jeans featuring sparkly pockets and a bright satin blouse,

with the latest accessories. Paired up with a blazer, corduroy jacket or tweed sports coat, jeans execute a look that's just right for the movies, that important "first date" or any well-

dressed but casual occasion.

How can you make sure you're getting a good value in a jean? Maryellen Rodgers, Garan's fashion director, offers these

guidelines.

— Look for permanent press, shrinkage-controlled fabrics that are easy to launder and keep fresh looking wearing after wearing.

Proper packing keeps pants wrinkle—free

Even the most expensive, designer clothes will hang poorly after being stuffed into a traveling bag.

The key to keeping your clothes wrinkle-free and fresh-looking is proper packing.

Start off by determining what size luggage best suits your traveling needs. How long is your trip and how much are you packing?

Your best bet is to choose a soft-sided garment bag with outside pockets, handles and shoulder straps. If you're traveling by plane, the bag can be easily carried aboard and hung in the plane's closet. Totes or duffels can be neatly tucked under your seat or in the overhead storage area.

Remember, the biggest plus about carry-on luggage is that it eliminates the hassle of waiting at baggage carousels.

Once you've settled on luggage, it's time to pack.

After doing the needed laundering and ironing, arrange all the items you plan to take according to category. Put all your footwear in one corner of your room, your dresses and blouses hang from a nearby door and drape your bed with slacks and

sweaters. Jewelry and toiletries ought to be laid aside separately.

First step is making sure the soles of any shoes you plan to pack are clean. Damp sponge them to prevent them from soiling clean clothes. You'll be stuffing them into spare corners.

The first layer of clothes to go into the bottom of your suitcase ought to be slacks. On top of these go bathrobes and sweaters. They may even be rolled to take up less space. Underwear may be rolled and stuffed inside shoes which should be inserted in the four corners of your suitcase. Remember to turn the soles of your shoes out toward the sides of your luggage. You may even want to keep pairs together with rubber bands.

Last, silk dresses and evening wear should be placed on top. Your most fragile items should not have to bear the weight of the rest of your clothes.

The best way to keep your toiletries from opening and spilling onto your clothing is to carry them separately in a cosmetic bag. But if you don't have one, just wrap your make-up, especially any bottles, in plastic bags and close with elastic bands.

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