

# Accessories for Spring Provide Detailed and Decorative Costume Contrast

## Elegant Detail, Cushioned Edges Contained in Hats

Effective new hats look subtly larger with a suggestion of bulk and greater importance. Little hats take cushioned edges, built-in fit and elegant detail.

Importantly shaped little hats include the chignon hat with a pouf of straw or fabric to extend the silhouette. Some have horseshoe openings, framed with ribbon or flowers, to show up back curls or a chignon coiffure. Others are worn far back on the head and secured by decorative devices while their opposites are perched far front, looking backwards with cut-away backs or small brims that turn up in back.

Deep cloche hats have a new look of bulk and importance, yet are kept from disarranging the hair by their shallow crowns and deep brims. Off-face cloches fit well down at the back of a smoother, longer bob. Early Entrance of Large Brims Large-brimmed hats appear earlier than usual, probably because they make such excellent complements for long-jacket suits. Trimmed simply, the large hat takes drama in the use of a single gigantic flower, a huge jeweled buckle or a striking bow.

New straws and synthetics are beautifully decorative. Molded into sleek shapes that blend with costume lines, they need or trimming. Checkerboard straws combine smooth and textured strands, pale straws are woven with inky velvet and satinized straws take sombre shading for intriguing texture.

Designers weave white braid between colors, stripe cellophane plush in rainbow colors, loop sheer colored braids, interweave straws with tiny beads—all indicating a spring millinery trend to delicate detailing.

### Flowers Look Real

Velvet and silk roses sparkle with crystal dewdrops. Shaded pastel roses quiver on rubber stems, with life-like ladybugs and bees whimsically posed on petals or leaves. The effect is a real look for flowers of all sizes from tightly furled buds to full blown cabbage roses.

Feathers are newly mated with flowers. Some straw hats are dotted with tiny feather wisps and sparkling stones. Sheer veiling and lace add delicate patterning to crowns or brims. Matte jersey, chiffon and organdie are shirred, pleated or draped for accent.

Even modestly-priced bonnets frequently achieve an amazing wealth of detail with a handmade look. And so appropriate it is with such understated trimmings as suits, dresses and coats are featuring.

Technical Trimmings, Too While there are navy and black hats a-plenty, most are color-trimmed. Golden honey tones from creamy white to deep



**SPRING HATS**—A belled cloche of woven straw, shown at left, gives a light contrast. It is by Mr. John. Shown at right, sheer white organdie makes a demure half-bonnet with embroidered flowers for an airy effect. It is designed by Beatrice Martin.

## New Foundations Favor Eased Waist and Flat Hip

The Alliance of foundation garments with ready-to-wear has never been so apparent as in the lines for spring.

There are brassieres and girdles to shape the "gentle look" with its high, round bust, eased waist and flat hip. There are other foundations to pull in the waist, giving the bosom accent and letting the hips curve. The foundation now conforms precisely to the preferred silhouette.

Since necklines are wide and shallow, rather than deep this season, many brassieres have off-the-shoulder or wide-set straps. Brassieres with straps often have wiring under the cups or crossed band to raise and round the bosom.

**Extended Strapless** The strapless bra, too, is important. Some styles offer cups pre-shaped by foam rubber lining or non-woven interfacing for firm uplift.

The strapless vogue extends into garments with longer control—the bra-lette fitting to the neckline and the corselet, which extends to the thighs. Both types feature rounded cups, some lifting the bust up to two inches with wiring or princess-styling.

Even though the waist is eased in new fashions, it must still be defined. The bra-lette, the corselet and the high-top girdle achieve proper waist control.

"burnt" straw shades harmonize with every costume color. Luscious bonbon pastels range from sunny Lemon Drop to Candied Lime and Raspberry Frappe.

Far East influence is mirrored in brilliant jewel tones, for example: Siam Sapphire, Arabian Ruby and Kashmir Emerald. Particularly important blues are hyacinths and lavender-tinged violet. Turquoise and Midnight Blue rate high for evening.

Bright sun-splashed colors—orange, coral and flame are significant as body and trimming both. Taupe-tinged grays and chalky white look new and wonderful in the millinery designs of spring 1955.

The one-piece foundation, allowing no break in the figure, emphasizes the long-torso look of the sheath or the overblouse.

**Hip Flattery** New girdles straighten the hips with all-elastic construction or by calculated combinations of elastic and sheer rigid fabrics. Waistline girdles are more prevalent, to be worn with short or long line brassieres, depending on the need for diaphragm control.

Firm control is achieved with light-weight fabrics, new methods of banding and seam construction. Girdles are losing their bulky look.

This season's foundations appear in such dainty fabrics as marquisette, power net and embroidered cotton. Embossment and embroidery in a second color adds prettiness. White is the favored foundation color, but there are many girdles, brassiers and corselets in black and some in soft pastels.

## Extreme Shorty Glove Stays in First Place

Designs among new gloves show both imaginative styling and classic practicality. The extreme shortie glove, so youthfully gay in feeling, continues to hold first place because of its versatility. Leather Glove Industries report a trend to high color.

However, new finesse in trimming and details, provides much fashion excitement. Shells, buttons, colored beads, self-embroidery are seen more often and are more beautifully handled this spring.

Shorties in glaze kid, pigskin or cape leathers, or cotton fabric are trimmed with dress maker piping on leather gloves is a charming new touch. Another group features decorative motifs in tiny leather-covered buttons at the side or a single line of rice pearls sewn at the hem.

## Low Torso Rates High in Teen-Age Fashion Design

The fashion news this season is the elongated torso—and teen apparel is making the most of it.

The lowered waistline, releasing full or pleated skirts, is here in dresses, suits and coats; and has even turned up in sweaters and knit overblouses. Many long-waisted styles have a nautical look, with great middy collars.

Teen dresses have broken into print in witty new ways, with etched prints, architectural outlines and harlequin triangles leading the field. Many fashions have bow necklines.

### Printed Ensembles

Also printed are the popular ensembles, consisting of a skirt, jacket and blouse or a one-piece dress plus a jacket.

Following Dior's French influence, teen suits feature the long torso and slim skirt. Another favored line is the box jacket suit over a pleated skirt.

Coats, too, are slim, many with button front detail. Boy coats are seen frequently, many in the season's favored pink tweeds. Other coats play up pocket detail and plus fabrics.

**More Washable Fabrics** The fabric news for teens is washability. And particularly new this spring are the 100% nylon tweeds that wash almost as easily as a pair of stockings.

Washable linens, high shade poplins, a combed cotton that looks like rayon faille, and folk spun, which is a nubby cotton, are important in sportswear.

Much sportswear, particularly "crazy pants" are going continental. "Bagdad buckles" on teens' pants permit adjustability of length and tightness around the thigh, calf or ankle. Sleeveless shirts have a narrow stand-up band to be worn high on the collarbone or wide open.

Navy is a leader in the color parade, vying with pastels for the front running position. Among the pastel shades, heliotrope, lilac, baby blue and baby pink are important. Pastel plaids are dominating the sportswear picture.

## Neckwear Features Color and Contrast

The accent is on color and contrast in this spring's neckwear picture. To offset the dark tones of men's business suits, ties will present such striking color combinations as black and gray with helio, yellow, pink and new tones of blue and green, expressed in stripes ranging from narrow to wide, spaced figures, under-the-knot and embroidered motifs.

Shapes continue on narrow side, with the new square-end model coming up strong in the four-in-hand group. Featured fabrics will include repps, grenadines, foulards, twill weaves and cords.

## Light-Weight Fabrics In Long Jacket Suits

Longer jackets and practically weightless fabrics bring fashion focus to the suit world this season. Big changes in shape and material plus important small changes in detail give you spring's suit story a long-needed revision.

Jacket news is probably most significant, since this is the main attraction of the suit silhouette. The 25-inch length is wearable and with gentle shaping acknowledges, without emphasizing, the female figure. Tailored and natural, the longer jacket usually buttons all the way down and sometimes takes a belt. The long torso look is generally established.

## Colored Shoes Feature Parade

Decorative cut, color and trimming make the shoes of spring the prettiest in many a season. The line is slender, but less exaggerated; heels, generally, are somewhat lower; materials are soft and supple and the colors are amazing.

Colored leathers have expanded their vistas in all directions. According to the Leather Industries of America, the most popular new shades are a bright cornflower blue that will usurp the place of spring navy in many a woman's heart, and red, from the flame and scarlet tones to blue reds—such as mauve and lavender.

Oriental yellow is spicy with mustard undertones.

**Tropical Leathers** All colors are available in tropical lightweight leathers as well as new aniline-dyed suede, pig, shag and crushed calf. Matte finished patent leathers are new and exciting, providing for the first time a soft luster rather than a high shine.

Heel treatment takes a spotlight in 1955. There are three-dimensional, hand-painted squared and sequined heels. There are new, graceful medium heels that conform to fashion's "gentle look."

Vamp detailing is varied and distinctive: interesting hand-cut buckles, jeweled insets or encrustments, sparkle, stitching and banding bring attention to a gracefully cut shoe.

### Finesse of Detail

Combinations of color and texture contribute to detail finesse. The popular spectator shoe, for instance, appears in a host of new leather combinations. Pinked collars and tips, French seams show the new interest in fine workmanship.

As shoes enter their "open season," a closed heel and toe combination with a wide-open instep makes a significant change. However, the closed toe and open back style is increasingly popular.

## Cover-Up Essential For Spring Weather

Small cover-ups—shrugs, boleros, pop-tops and miniature jackets—are too big to be overlooked this spring.

Tailored, casual or dress-up—the cover-up is essential for spring's uncertain temperature and summer's air-conditioning. Some of the prettiest in wool or cotton knit provide 'round the clock chic.

One new style is "shoulder arms"—a boldly striped knit that looks like a tube because

it's in one piece. The hands slip through wrist openings and voila! a shrug that covers just the shoulders. A cotton knit pop-top, cropped at the waist fastens with tiny clothespins.

New shrugs in wool chenille are curved and cutaway like boleros. Collarless or daintily fashioned with mandarin or a small turn-down collar, they're available in a roster of pastel and bold colors.

Brief bulkies are treated to sailor or capuchin collars.

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