

Fall Fashion Story: Short, Simple Shapes

Hemlines Rising; Simplicity Gives Feminine Effects

When it comes to shape, the fall fashion story is short and simple. Hemlines are rising—to just below the knee, in most cases. Silhouettes—and there are many of them—rely on easy, simple lines to create effects that are fresh, feminine and, above all, youthful. All along the easy line, the basic simplicity of silhouettes is dramatized by interesting colors and fabrics. Red, green, orange, gold, blue, ultra violet—just about every color is represented. "Fall foliage," "Indian summer" or "harvest" are descriptions given to some of the most important shades.

Fabrics revel in surface interest, from the loops and curls of mohair and mohair wools to the raised ribs of faille and the airy puffs of matelasse crepes. Smooth-surfaced fabrics are rich and lustrous, with a look of depth.

While there's a great choice of silhouettes—Empire, chemise, trapeze, cocoon, blouson, spoon, scythe, bubble, balloon to mention some of the leaders—they find a common bond in the "free form" or "mobile" look. One of the freshest ways of applying ease to the fall silhouette is through the Empire look. The true Empire, with an under-bust waistline above a slim, graceful flow of fabric, is rising to fashion prominence, while high-waisted Empire effects are employed for both chemise and trapeze styles.

Chemise Changes
There's less talk about the chemise as such—and more acceptance of it as an easy and far from sack-like look that promises to be a long-continuing influence on fashion. Now, the chemise meets the sheath and becomes the "straight sheath," fitted at bust and hips, unfitted at the waist.

When the chemise takes a waistline, it may be high, in Empire fashion, or low—just below the hips or just above the knees. In the latter case, the chemise usually follows the figure, subtly and easily, down to the low-low waistline, and then bursts out in pleats, a trumpet flare or gathered flounce.

Interpretations of the chemise have led to such silhouettes as the scythe, the cocoon and the spoon, with fitted fronts and a bloused or rounded and tapered line in the back.

Easily Wearable
Important among the easily wearable silhouettes of the season are the trapeze and the blouson. Newest is the youthful-looking trapeze, fitted at the shoulders then fitted out gently toward the hem. For the two-part double trapeze, the same line is repeated in top and skirt.

Introduced in recent seasons, the blouson continues into fall, with the hip-slenderizing effect of its bloused top above a slim skirt endearing it to many.

Major contributions to the fashion news are the walking suit and the three-piece ensemble. Jackets for the walking suit may take any of fall's popular shapes, but all agree on longer length—thirty-five inches or thereabout. Often, they're trimmed with fur, as are many of this season's coats and suits.

Paris Get Together
Possible components of the three-piece ensemble are varied. Skirt, overblouse and coat; skirt, overblouse and jacket; coat, jacket and skirt; coat, jacket and dress represent some of the best-liked combinations.

Reflecting the interest in the walking suits are not-quite-full-length "walking coats." Coats in general show a pleasing awareness of current fashion trends, so that it's easy to select coat that will fit properly over the new-season suits, dresses and separates.

Delicate Decoration Featured in Gloves

Gloves are in the fashion spotlight this fall, featuring delicate decoration and a wide variety of exciting colors. Elegant detailing and softness are favored in lengths ranging from shorties to four

to eighteen buttons. The slim look of fashion is adopted in the tapered P.K. sewn fingers and molded fit of the longer lengths.

Leather gloves appear in pastel shades and a whole rainbow of high fashion colors. These include browns in all shades from palest greyed browns to darkest chocolate, bronze greens, greys, blues from bright to dark, reds in deep wine tones and bright scarlet.

Pastels for late day and evening run the gamut from pinks to mauves and lilacs, palest yellows, blues and greens and, of course, the formal white kid gloves that sometimes reach as high as the shoulder.

Washability
Washability is a popular feature of new Launder Leather gloves, along with such detailing as tiny airy perforations, jeweled trims, light embroidery and floral touches, applique treatments, bows and buckles.

The trapeze silhouette has been adapted to Launder Leather gloves that have a flared cuff and are high belted under the finger line. The chemise look is seen in a low stitching at the cuff line highlighted with a tiny bow.

Pigskin and pig-textured deerskin and cape appear in casual styles, many with whip stitching in contrasting colors. They are often lined in silk, wool or fur.

Cottons, nylons and novelty knits also interpret the trends of the season. For dressy wear, velvet gloves appear with dainty beavraise-type printing or embroidery.

Coordination reaches a high point in sets combining gloves with matching scarfs, belts, bags, collars or headbands.



LOOPED MOHAIR—Mohair and color unite to create some of the most exciting news in fashion for fall. Among the leaders in this trend are looped mohair sweaters, vividly colorful. Sweater shown is hip length and distinctively styled with easy lines, perky pointed collar and tapered sleeves. It's available in a color choice of blue, mango, emerald, pumpkin, school-house red, brisk brown, white or black. Sweater by Select.

Livelier Ties Seen in New Fall Fashions

Ties for fall 1958 will be a lot livelier than they have been for several years. There are signs of a sure shift from the toned-down muted effects that have set the style pace in neckwear during the past several seasons.

Both in woven designs and in prints there are more colorful and bolder designs to liven up the very popular medium to dark shades of clothing.

New Foundations Available for Each Silhouette in New Styles

Chemise, trapeze, blouson, bubble, Empire line—for each silhouette there are new foundations to help in shaping an attractive figure.

The new foundations, generally, are long, light and firmly controlling. Girdles rise above the waistline, are eased through the midriff but with positive shaping for diaphragm and waist.

Some girdles, though of regular length in front and back for walking ease, are cut long on the sides to smooth hips and thighs.

For thigh smoothing, too,

there are long-legged pantie girdles—a foundation popularized by the tapering chemise and seen in four section zippered styles for the average to full figure, with pull-ons for the youthful junior figure type.

Brassieres are universally rounded of cup to shape gentle curves underneath dresses which fall softly over the bosom.

Because of the trapeze silhouette and its figure-following look in front, there is emphasis on long line brassieres, with elastic or lacy and sheer rigid fabric extending from underneath the bosom to the waist.

There are many good new brassieres for the ample bust-line, among them D-cup styles with both straps and under-cup wiring for support. And there are contour bras for the small figure, observing the trend to subtle curves by having thinner and lighter inside shaping than in past seasons. Fewer bra-lettes are among

the new corsetry collections, although they do exist for the bubble skirts which require minimum hipline control.

More numerous are corsets, full-length foundations which include all-elastic styles for the slight figure and combine rigid with stretch panels for the more generously proportioned.

Tapering side panels of elastic, narrow at the curve of the hip and fanning out below, are often employed for slimming effect.

Color runs the gamut from pastels to rich jewel tones. Black looks newest with contrasting embroidery. There is much use of applique designs and lace.

TOP HONORS—go to the "wash and wear" suit, shown here in a soft banker's gray flannel of Orion acrylic fiber and rayon. Can be dunked in the washing machine, and needs little if any ironing! Can be worn almost all year-round.



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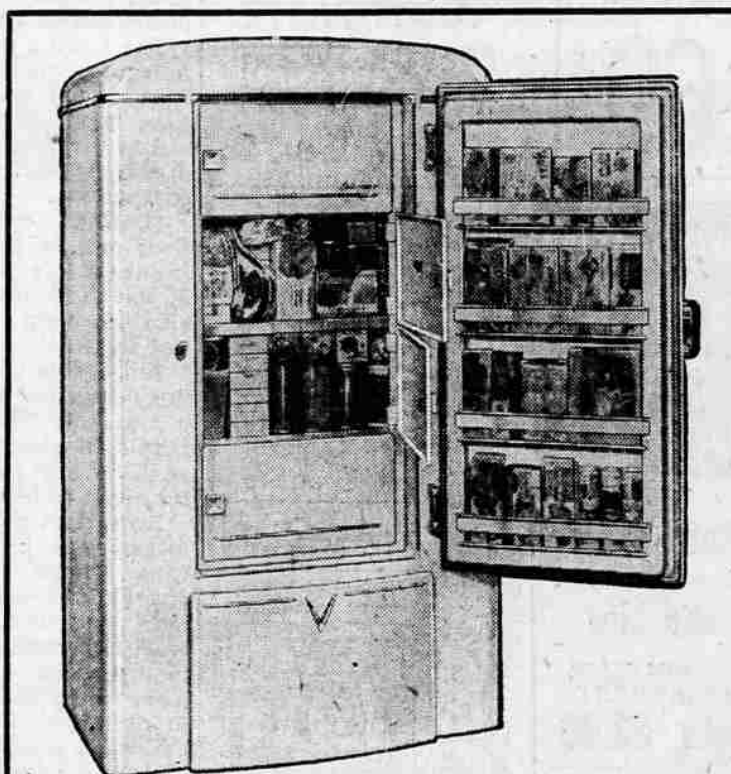
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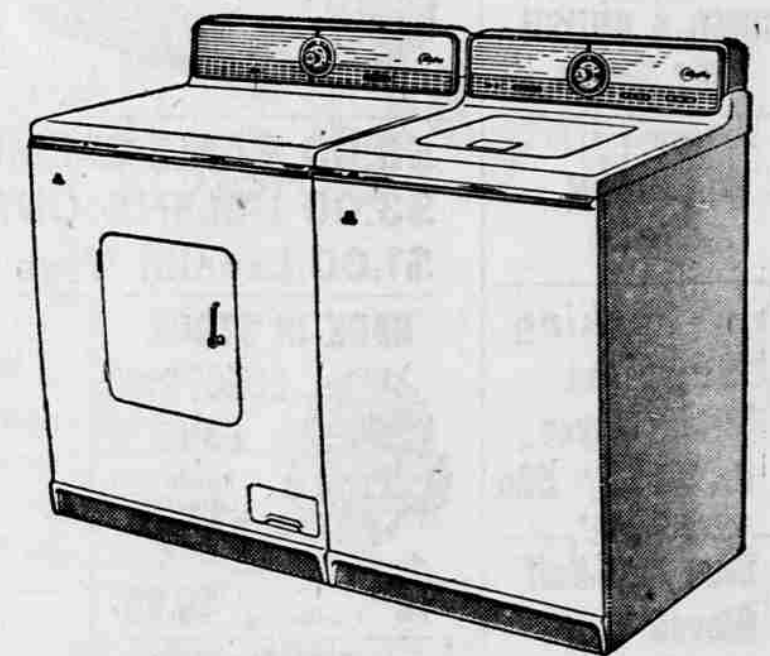
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