

Homemakers Voice Need of Practical In Rich Materials

A richer, more luxurious look combines with functional comfort and carefree upkeep in today's approach to home decorating. Whether the budget is modest or lavish, and whether the furnishings or refurbishing project is do-it-yourself or with decorator assistance, homemakers demand not only more elegance but more practicality.

Stimulated by modern mobility in travel, the tendency

to draw upon a world-wide cultural heritage increases, giving rise to a rich variety of decorating and design ideas. From softened modern to gracious traditional, from American Colonial and Federal to international mixtures, mellow beauty is the rule.

Decorating "Plus"

Yet the very interests and opportunities of modern living, which stimulate the preference for a gracious, elegant look in the home, also leave little time for struggling with maintenance problems. Today's furniture and furnishings, whatever the style, must be compatible with ease of care.

Modern materials, fabrics and finishes triumphantly meet the need. And they provide every vibrant-ready to please, home fashioneer with every taste and fit any decor. Particularly this spring, color is featured in man-made fibers for deep colors and patterns.

Miracle yarns and finishes result in curtains and draperies that resist everything from soil to moths, clean easily and require little ironing. Plus values come from the fact that they're easy to hang and hold their shape.

Soil Resistant

On the floor go soil-resistant carpets and area rugs with the resilience and strength to withstand hardest use. Upholstery fabrics and furniture finishes are made to ward off spot and stains and stay new looking.

Perhaps the most widespread "side benefit" or rugged and carefree fabrics and finishes is in the field of color and texture. Luxurious patterns and textures that used to be associated with delicacy are, nowadays, as good as they are beautiful when it comes to soil-and-wear resistance.

Modern yarns and processes have opened whole new vistas of color to the homemaker. In practical, durable home fabrics with a rainbow range from pale and pretty to deep



VARIETY OF STYLES—Heralding spring are new leather shoes in a variety of style and silhouettes. Shown here, top left to right, are: dress-casual flat in three tones and textures of leather, snake-embossed, calf and patent; spectator in waxed leather, on wide stacked heel, highlighted with perforations; at-home flat in sand-colored suede; at bottom, suit pump with snapped-off toe in bone and taupe, with wide buckled strap at instep; patent leather slingback with crossed instep strap. They're by Ki-Yaks, Foot Flairs, Piccolino, Valentine and Mademoiselle.

Petite Fashions In Spring News

Big news for little women this spring is the increasing number of "petite" fashions, as more and more top-flight designers are adding "five-four and under" sizes to their lines.

One dramatic example in the "petite" size range is the "fencing master" suit—featuring a curved, fitted jacket with hip-flip peplum above a styled-for-action skirt.

Many others provide fashion-without-alterations.



THREE-EYELET BLUCHER—Moccasin front design is combined with a line of perforations in this brown three-eyelet blucher to set a handsome masculine style note in spring footwear. Photo by Leather Industries of America.

Natural Look Is Afoot for Spring Shoe Men Report

Light, airy and understated, the natural look is afoot for spring, in many styles and silhouettes, according to Shoe Fashion Service of Leather Industries of America. The natural—or feminine—look means pumps, flats, walkers, slingbacks in easy, fluid lines. It calls for sun-drenched colors, in single and multi-color effects.

Lower, except for more formal occasions and costumes. Warm blues, strawberries and greens and a wide variety

of neutrals make color news. Joining bone and white among dressy neutrals are mushroom, oatmeal and sage green.

It is interpreted in smooth and suede leathers, grained and brushed leathers, waxy and patent leathers—all made into foot-flattering shoes.

Opened-up effect of closed-toe, open-back or open-side shoes is part of the new spring look at ground level. Large portholes on vamp or sides, slim slingback straps or large vents are popular variations of the open effect, as are woven leathers, perforations, embroidered designs on vamp and toe.

Strap Shoes

Big girls take to little girls' styles in a huge variety of strap shoes—symmetric straps, T-straps that connect at all points of the shoe, and wide sabot straps.

Casual footwear, led by moccasin flats and moccasin-front walking shoes, appears in every type of leather. Brushed leather, in flats and occasionally in boot shoes, is a new casual favorite. In keeping with the trend to lighter shoes, these casuals are made in brushed split leather. The leather has literally been split-thinned down—to lighten the shoe and add greater flexibility while retaining durability.

Various Toes

Toes and heels hold few surprises. Rounded toe is seen chiefly on casual and walking shoes, pointed toe on daytime and evening shoes, square toe on late-day and suit shoes. Heels tend to be

Wide Bracelets In Style News

Jewelry design for spring takes its cue from the new highlights in fashion.

The sleeve returns, drawing interest to the arm and hand. Wide cuff bracelets and fluid chains around the wrist are only a few of the exciting jewelry ideas.

Rings, at the fingertip of the narrowed sleeve, make a focal point in big dome shapes in pearls and stones.

Pins pinpoint the base of V-necklines and show up importantly on the fashionable sweater-suit—placed at the hip or the shoulder, on an ascot. Drop and pendant pins provide movement, in the graceful, feminine mood of the season.

High-rising jewelry collars in baroque or real pearl looks show off dramatic clasps.

More and more white, pretty pastels—yellows, blues and many, many pinks—are big for spring jewelry popularity.



SILK COSTUME—Simple, uncluttered look of spring is reflected in softly feminine three-piece silk costume. Jeanes Petties by Mori Schrader.

New clothes looks rate new shoe looks by QualiCraft!

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