

Fur-Pretend Fabrics Are Made Into Accessories

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by Samuel

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fall flattery ahead



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Betty Roy added to our staff.

Dorothy Elliot, Owner

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Wild and wonderful furs are coming out of the jungle and off the looms this fall... long haired and short haired, striped and spotted, to make really exciting accessories.

And since the right way to look this season is the sportive way, the furry accessories — bags, vests, ascots and stoles — even boots — are one of the newest and smartest ways to add your own personal signature to your coordinated costume.

Among the pretend furs that will liven the fashion scene this fall are the zebra's stripes and the leopard's spots, both being widely used in almost everything from top to toe, from hats to vests to skirts to boots.

New weaving processes and new synthetic fibers have made possible an entirely new range of truly beautiful fake furs with all the richness of depth and color and texture of the originals.

And the creative designers, from the very top-ranking names on down, have gone wild over these furry fabrics, as will you when you see them.

These are not cheap and shoddy and shamefaced imitations of the real thing. They are frankly fake and frankly fabulous.

Consider the fashion impact of a "mink" pullover sweater top, for example, or a floor-length "broadtail" hostess gown — or a "zebra" bag, big and bold, with a stark black suit.

Another dramatic use of these new "furs" is in sleeveless vests to be worn over plain little dresses. There's an "ocelot" with "mink" trim that would be heaven with a golden wool — and there are even wide range of "fur" shirts and blouses, sweaters and cardigans that are wonderful wardrobe extenders when teamed with your skirts, pants and basic dresses.

Fashion Goes Feminine in Two Directions

Fashion goes feminine in two directions — the lifted waistline and the stretched out torso. Paris is calling the waistline "terrine vague" (or undefined ground), meaning that it can be anywhere, and the American designers, from Top Names to Mass Markets, are in agreement.

Even skirt lengths are vague, ranging from short to mid-calf to ankle, depending on fabric and mood. And the most usual overall feeling is one of long, skinny suppleness, greatly softened, greatly flattering to almost every figure.

The newest dresses are narrow and skimpy, barely touching the figure lightly, emphasizing a high bust in what is almost an Empire line.

There's a fluid, graceful feeling to these dresses, often achieved by the bias cutting (shades of Jean Harlow!) so popular in the '30s and due for a big revival in all fabrics including wools this fall.

Bias cutting achieves a fit that moves when the figure moves — a far more subtle way to emphasize than skin-tight fitting or rigid inflexible boning can give.

Intricate Seaming
Intricate seaming and raglan sleeves often contribute to this all shape, all supple feeling of sexy softness which appears in many of the day clothes and reaches real eminence in the late-day and cocktail-time dresses that verge into the frankly romantic.

Many late day and evening dresses go even further into the Femme Fatale look; very slinky, very dramatic, very understated, gaining all their impact from shape and fabric and simplicity. These have a true feminine elegance that is the exact opposite of the fussy, cluttered, blatant bouffants that were once almost a "dress-up" uniform.

Long, graceful sleeves have returned, either thin and fitting, contributing to the long skinny look, or full and gathered and cuffed for the romantic feeling. And the "costume look" in rich wools and velvets has returned as well.

Not for a long time has there been such a feeling of a new look — a new and elegantly feminine feeling — in the fashion scene.

Suit Shoulders Are Getting Wider for Fall

It is always fun and thrilling to peep into the future, when given that seldom but exhilarating pleasure! And when the fashion future can be predicted, how much easier it makes the wardrobe planning — how much nicer for the clothing budget!

Significant fashion influences come from many sources, from California and from New York, from Italy and from Paris. And when it can be learned what the top designers of the entire world are doing now, what we'll be wearing next year is very easy to see.

Fashion always starts with a "look" — a shape — silhouette.

Remember when Dior took women out of wide-shouldered, short skirted, skimpy fabric-rikked suit that reflected the wartime's austerity?

Suddenly, in one short season, everything in the wardrobe was out of style. Way, way out of style.

But the picture of what is to come is already shaping up. According to the published sketches of the most important of the trend-setting designers, both here and abroad in Paris and Italy, shoulders are going wider and rounder.

Some evidence is already available to indicate a return to gentle padding in the future to further emphasize the shoulder. But it will be used in a rounder, far softer version than in the straight, squared off shoulders of the '30's.

Sleeves get more and more attention, too. Almost all of the sketches for the future put a great emphasis on the bulk of important sleeves.

Skirts are staying uniformly slim and narrow, with all the bulk of the silhouette moving up to the top.

Wide and tall collars top the widened shouldered, big sleeved silhouette, and if the waistline is defined in fit — it, too, is lifted.

Width at the top and bulk at the top, tapering to a slim and narrow length of skirt, are the things to look for this fall if you are planning the kind of wardrobe that will carry over from one year to the next without being dated.

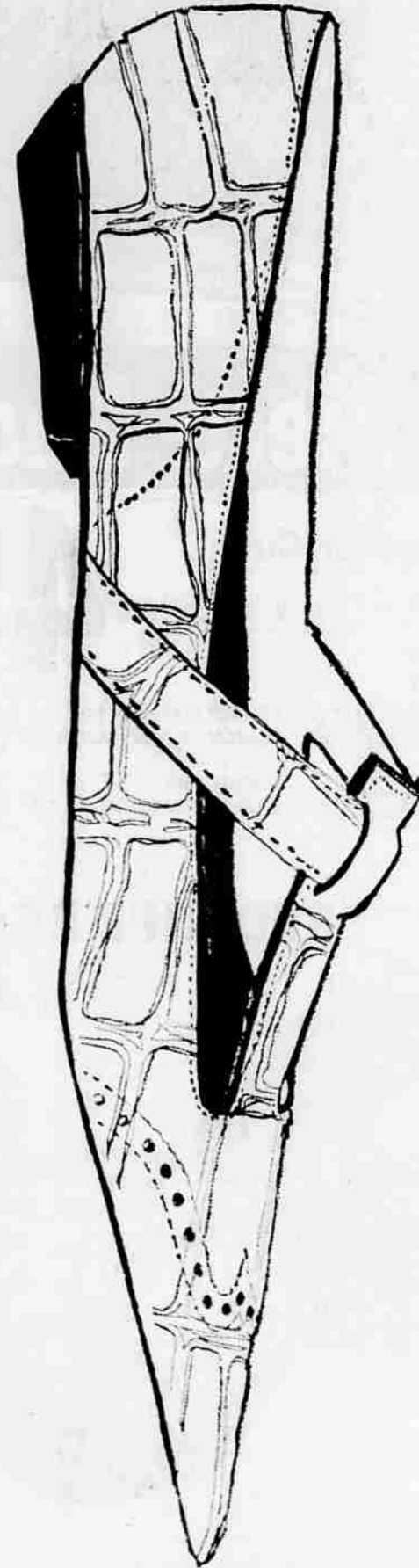
Think of a triangle, point down, and look for this shape when you shop for a fashionable future.

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

in DeSalle Mocco Crocco

Bosh! We're on to you Skooters. Our safari to the Shoe Salon has detected you are not really reptile at all, but a clever counterfeiter in calf! Good show though—it takes a monacle to ferret the fraud —indeed, these Mocco Croccos are positively posh and quite a trophy for great white or natural fashion hunters. And jove, each pair is just

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*Fur Products labeled to show country of origin of imported furs.