

Gaiety Will Set Theme

Gaiety marks the color calendar from the first signs of spring into and through summer. Not a loud or silly gaiety, but the most feminine sort. The gaiety of Moulin Rouge or Oriental puggaris presents itself in airy coloring that is both soft and buoyant.

There are, for instance, the "Water Colors" — clear reds, blues, greens that make sports clothes happy, dress clothes dramatic and casual clothes effective. Combinations of a "Water Color" with a shaded neutral make fashion points everywhere.

The "Far Eastern" colors blend into the luxurious feeling of many at-home togs and after-five outfits. Here are the splashes of metallic materials, the sheers in faint, gauzy insets, the lush oranges and purples and deep, limpid greens. Of course, navy remains the important spring staple, this year smartly crisped with white. Black seems to be making new inroads on spring wardrobes and the beige-to-brown family shows no sign of retreating from its fall popularity. Grey and beige vie for the lead in accessory colors — very warm shades as the neutrals to complement their clean-cut companion colors.

Filling in are the pastels, light, clear and beautiful, and a few jewel tones for early spring formal wear. And, of course, white — never outmoded — makes a fine showing in many new fabrics for both casual and dress. White sheers, textured whites, white-on-white, and white with color are spring's special favorites and always flattering.

Gloves Given Neat Touch

Neat and delicate touches mark the glove leaders of 1954 and contribute to an all-around young and feminine look. There is a great deal of fagoting, matching or contrasting hand stitching, French knots and colored embroidery. Dress gloves are artistically draped. Shorties wear cut-out designs.

While the hand looks slim and graceful, glove contours are rounded. Some end slightly before the wrist with tiny buttons or self flowers. Many of these "shorties" have elasticized sections for snug fit. A smart new note in fabric gloves is eyelet embroidery over the whole glove or the wristband. Others have contrasting stitching down the sides.

Kid gloves look sprightly this spring in a bouquet of colors, some with purple place finish. These are sleek fitting and take to many beautiful draping techniques. Some wear bows at the side; others are draped into sophisticated knots; others are attractively edged in a slim border of white.

For casual wear, pique gloves are refreshing. Pigskins are available in many new colors. And there are new, rich nylons that duplicate both.

EYE APPEAL

Big news in beachwear is visual appeal. It sparkles with bright colors and novelty patterns. New constructions provide cotton, nylon, rayon and linen with extra light weight. Many are quick drying.



YOU'LL BE TEMPTED TO FLY AWAY to far places, in this fetching "squaw dress," modeled by dark-haired, petite Martha Nelson of Town Shop. This frock of gold cotton, is banded with silver rick-rack. The neckline dips to a deep V of multi-colored braid and the very full, tiered skirt swirls above a can-can petti-skirt and her slender ankles. Martha wears earrings, silver filagree two wide bracelets, one of gold, one of silver and a silver Gaucho belt; a perfect ensemble for frittering away a day on the beach or the rodeo.

Vivid Background Colors, Along With Color-On-Color Highlight New Prints

New in the 1954 print picture is color — vivid background colors and effective color-on-color. Gay prints predominate in most collections. "Varied patterns include florals, marbled effects, tweeds and fur and reptile prints," reports the Silk and Rayon Print Institute. Visual textures — rather than deep "touch" textures — and etched patterns appear in happy assortment. Floral prints look very 1954 in four distinct variations. The real-looking group of field flowers, violet clusters, lilacs and roses — all seem fresh-picked from the garden. In realistic colors and designs, they appear to be alive and fragrant.

New Nasturtiums
There is an all-over floral effect of color on color. Nasturtiums in a yellow-to-red color gamut are

tumbled closely together on a yellow ground. Giant sweet sultans in lavenders, pinks and blues give a periwinkle effect. Sweet peas combine pale pinks and deep reds tone on tone and color on color.

A modernistic look takes some license with color and keeps basic shapes etched on neutral ground colors. This group includes an occasional oversize flower splashed on a pale fabric.

Finally come the "wallpaper" designs, using flower heads symmetrically to form stripes, circles or small-spaced sprays. These are new and fresh and especially important in junior lines.

The "Watered" Look
The "marbled" look rates high this spring, bringing the striated effects of real marble into

a new fashion fluidity. There are "watered" designs that resemble moire and prints with a wonderful "warped" feeling. Even some polka dots and geometric motifs have interesting fuzzy outlines.

Distinctive markings of crocodiles, cobras and tortoises have been faithfully reproduced in print designs for a rich "reptile" look on tailored clothes. And fur prints continue with some fascinating new variations, such as civet cat, leopard and zebra.

Twoedy or textured designs are carefully etched on smooth fabrics to resemble herring-bones, windowpane checks, donegal tweeds and even gien plaids. Most have tiny shots of bright color worked in. Other all-over designs give the effect of steel engravings — usually in black or grey on color.

FOR FUN-IN-THE SUN
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White Stag

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