

Our Weekly Fashion Service for the Home Dressmaker



WITH domestic science classes popularizing the homely arts, cooking, dressmaking and millinery are again becoming quite the fad, and however awkward the beginner's use of the neglected tools—pan and kettle, broom, dustpan and dustcloth, or needle and thread—it is not long until enthusiasm has created proficiency.

We have been, for some months, publishing news of the fashionable fabrics and their fashionable development into milady's wardrobe. To those who need only a hint of what is "the thing" in style or fabrics this might be sufficient, but among the thousands of readers who have neither time nor opportunity to learn in "domestic science" classes how to utilize these hints, a few instructions regarding the practical development—cutting, fitting and sewing—of these patterns might be of value.

The editor will, therefore, try each week to incorporate in her fashion talks enough practical knowledge of what to do when you make your own dresses to give the novice a working basis. In selecting a pattern the beginner should, of course, undertake only the plain one at first to try upon, and only inexpensive material which will not so much matter if spoiled.

No. 5489, a simple one-piece house dress without lining is ideal for the beginner, so we will assume this to be the selection. Open and identify each part of the pattern and learn

the meaning of its perforations and notches by referring to the printed directions upon the envelope. Observe always the two large perforations upon each pattern-part which indicates the way the pattern is to be laid on the cloth.

Then, having mastered the meaning of the explanatory perforations both those having to do with the laying out of the pattern and those indicating constructive points in the making, place the pattern upon the material. Most of the sections of a garment are cut in duplicate—that is, the material is folded so that two portions (one for each side) are cut at the same time by the one pattern piece. To cut them fold the material in half, with the two cut ends together, and the right side, or face of the goods, "inside." The wrong side will not be uppermost and you may indicate the making perforations with a led pencil, tailors' chalk, or by running a pin straight through the middle of the perforation and the two layers of the material. Cut out all parts of the pattern before lifting any from the material, and make "tailors' tacks" where the pins indicate.

Tailors' tacks? Of course you don't know what they are yet, so here is the way to make them. Using a bobbie thread of basting cotton, take two or three short running stitches through both layers of material; skip a space of perhaps an inch, take two or three more, leaving the thread quite loose between the groups of short stitches. When enough have been

made, cut the thread between the groups, take hold of the two edges of cloth and pull them gently apart until there is about one-quarter inch of thread at each stitch. Now, with sharp scissors, cut these threads midway between the layers of cloth. The short upstanding threads in the cloth will mark the places.

Make the notches in the edges of your pattern either by cutting, or preferably, with a stitch in the edge, since then there is no danger of spoiling your seam or having the material ravel so much in sewing. Another aid to the beginner is a basted line down the center front and center back of the skirt gore, and of the waist, unless it opens directly in front or back.

This gives you your pattern cut and ready for the basting. Next week we shall take up the basting of a garment, the joining of materials and how plain and striped material should be handled to give proper effects in a finished garment.

The overblouse idea is one utilized in a great many interesting and charming ways this winter, and an essentially practical one, since there are often slightly worn blouses that may be utilized with the overblouse which could not by any other means remain in the wardrobe.

5513—Ladies' Waist. With underbody having one-piece sleeves which may be omitted and with high, round or square neck. Outer back and sleeves in one piece and perforated for shorter sleeves. High waistline and attached one-piece tunic with straight lower edge and closing to left of center-back under plait. Sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 bust. Size 36 requires 2 1/4 yards 54-inch material, with 1 5-8 yard 36-inch material for underbody, 3/4 yard 20-inch satin for collar and 1 yard 18-inch lace. Price, 15 cents.

5321—Ladies' Draped Skirt. Having a three-piece foundation and high waistline. Length of foundation in front from natural waistline 36 1/2 inches; back 38 1/2 inches. Width around lower edge about 1 1/4 yard. Sizes 21, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 waist. Size 26 requires 2 1/4 yards 54-inch material with 2 1/4 yards 36-inch lining for foundation gores. Price, 15 cents.

4044—Ladies' Costume. With lining, high or V-neck, attached three-piece skirt with high waistline. Width around lower edge about 2 3/4 yards. Sizes 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 bust. Size 36 requires 3 1/4 yards 44-inch material, 5-8 yard 40-inch lace, 5 1/2 yards banding. Price, 15 cents.

5489—Ladies' Costume. Without lining. Having high or round neck, long one-piece sleeves perforated for short sleeves, high waistline and attached three-piece skirt in regulation or shorter length. Length of skirt in front from natural waistline 42, back 44 inches; perforated for 40 inches front, 42 inches back. Width around lower edge about 1 7-8 yard. Sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 bust. Size 36 requires 3 1/4 yards 54-inch material. Price, 15 cents.

Address THE CALIFORNIA FARMER, 24 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose, Cal.

No

Name

Address

Size

NOTICE—All persons sending for patterns must be sure to give name, full address and number of pattern distinctly written. Until this is done delay is caused and satisfaction can not be expected.

Patterns delivered on mail orders in two or three days.



5481—Ladies' Night Gown. To be slipped on over the head. Sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 bust. Size 36 requires 3 1/4 yards 45-inch material. Price, 15 cents. Embroidery scallop No. 11747; transfer pattern, 15 cents. Embroidery design No. 11904; transfer pattern, 10 cents.



5488—Misses' Waist. Without lining. Having front, back and long sleeve in one piece and perforated for round or square neck and short sleeves. Bretelles may be made of flouncing. Sizes 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. As illustrated in large front view, size 16 requires 1 yard 36-inch material, with 2 1/2 yards 11-inch flouncing. Or, as in back view, size 16 requires 1 1/2 yard 44-inch material. Price, 15 cents.