

# Oregon Agricultural College

## Extension Service

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### YOU AND YOUR CLOTHES

By

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The wish to be well dressed is a worthy one. A feeling of comfort in our clothes and a knowledge that we have made the most of our good points gives poise and greater self-confidence.

Prevailing fashions always offer a choice ranging from the most extreme styles to those which are sane, practical, and artistic.

Consider when adding any outer garment to a wardrobe:

1. Age
2. Personal characteristics
3. Social demands
4. Money to be spent
5. Other articles in wardrobe which will be worn with it.

### THE FIGURE

*How to study one's own figure.*

1. Compare size of bust and hips with waist; 7 to 10 inches difference between waist and bust is average. If more than 10 inches a better silhouette is gained by girdle drapery or loose waist line to fill out indentation.

2. Notice width and thickness of shoulders. Narrow, thin shoulders look better with deep-armseye or kimona-sleeved waists if the material does not cling. Thicker shoulders are apparently made less thick by short shoulder seams and set-in sleeves.

3. Long waists and short limbs may be better balanced by raising the waist line.

4. Flat chests need soft folds, gathers at the neck line, loose collars, or draped effects.

### TEXTURE

The question of texture involves fitness to occasion, the size of the wearer and the type of trimming suitable.

1. Materials for street wear are preferably dark in color, inconspicuous in pattern, and are trimmed, if at all, with tucks, braids, buttons, cordings, and other structural decorations.

2. Shiny fabrics with their high lights; rough fuzzy surfaces; and printed materials of large or definite design, apparently add size. Dull,

## GOOD TASTE AND ECONOMY

### *Points on choosing a wardrobe.*

1. If one garment must do for two occasions choose a style and material suitable for the less formal so that the dress will not be over-elaborate for either.

2. Keep to a few standard colors and then footwear, hats, and gloves may be used interchangeably.

3. If the garment is made at home buy as good material as possible. The satisfaction gained through wearing clothes of quality lasts much longer than the remembrance of the price per yard.

4. The advantages of the dark silk dress are being realized. If a good-wearing silk is chosen (like crepe de chine, foulard, or canton crepe), a design selected which is conservative, and the decoration kept unobtrusive, a most economical dress results. It is suitable for more than one purpose, thus necessitating fewer clothes in the wardrobe; it is comfortable and easily cleaned.

5. Avoid the novel styles which are short-lived and easily dated. A dress conservative in silhouette, color, texture, line, and decoration looks right until it is worn out with but few changes necessary.