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# When You Buy a Sport Shirt



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Miss Carlson

People say they want value for price. Different people look for different values or satisfactions.

Think: What you want

What you need

$$\frac{\text{Wants} + \text{Needs} + \text{Care}}{\text{Price}} = \text{Value}$$

This is an example of the decisions that might be made before buying a sport shirt.

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### Wants

*Want a sport shirt for Saturday night outdoor meals.*

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### Needs

*Need a dressy but not a fancy fabric, and a color which will go with brown slacks.*

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### Care

*Put it in regular family wash.*

Sport shirts continue to be popular in the trend to informal living and more leisure-time activities.

### Style Trends

The swing is toward higher quality and a neater look. The "Ivy League" influence has brought an overall conservative look. Top-stitch collars and button-down collars lead. An innovation is the shorter adaptation of the one-piece Italian collar. A new item is the shirt jacket to coordinate with shorts or slacks, marking the return of the slack suit.

Styles for different kinds of use, such as informal social activities, travel, spectator sports, and active sports, are easily found.

### Fabric Trends

Cotton predominates. In dressier types, cotton used alone or combined with silk or rayon has a silky or lustrous look. Fabrics are lighter weight. Colors have a cleaner, lighter, whiter look. Prints are neat, and stripes and plaids are subdued in tone.

For travel, minimum-care cottons, easy-care rayons, and Dacron or nylon blends are found. Knits in a variety of styles are comfortable for active sports and vacation wear. Among these are Orlon and Acrilan jerseys.

### Fabric Facts

- Cotton is comfortable and absorbs moisture. It gets mussy when worn, unless it has been given a special finish or has been made up into a type of fabric that doesn't wrinkle, like a mesh or knit. Crease-resistant finishes are commonly found on cotton sport shirts.

- Rayon is comfortable but is weak when wet and frays along raw edges. It musses easily and shrinks or stretches unless it has been given a special finish. Finishes are commonly found on rayon sport shirts.

- Dacron and nylon hold a press without mussing but do not absorb moisture. They are more comfortable when blended with cotton or rayon, or made into a porous weave or knit.

- If a tag has the Sanforized or Rigmel label, or says it will not shrink more than 2 per cent, the shirt should not shrink out of fit. In knits, a label may tell that the fabric has been given a finish to prevent shrinking or stretching. Redmanized and Permathal are examples. Some stores suggest buying one size larger in cotton knits if a drier will be used.

- Vat dyes are high quality dyes used on cottons and rayons.

### Save the Label

Information about finishes and fibers helps in laundering shirts because—

- You should not use a chlorine bleach with a cotton or rayon having a special finish for wash-and-wear, minimum care, little ironing, or wrinkle resistance. It may cause fabric to turn yellow. Yellowing or fabric splitting shows up on ironing these fabrics after a chlorine bleach has been used. Unless the tag says that a chlorine bleach is safe, don't take that risk. Perborate powder bleaches are safe to use when needed.

- Dacron, nylon, and acetate all have a low melting point. Use a low setting on the iron when you press shirts containing these fibers. Use a low setting when pressing Acrilan and Orlon to prevent yellowing.

- Cottons and rayons with special finishes, and blends containing Dacron, nylon, or acetate, hold oily stains. These stains may become permanently set when washed. Pretreat oily stains and soiled collars with a liquid detergent or commercial spot remover before washing.

Under the leadership of the National Association of Shirt, Pajama, and Sportswear Manufacturers, the following approved terms have been set up.

**COMPLETELY WASHABLE.** This garment can be washed in a commercial laundry, or in a home washing machine, in hot water not to exceed 160° F. with soap or detergent and bleaching agent.

**FULL WASHABLE—DO NOT BLEACH.** This garment can be washed in a commercial laundry, or in a home washing machine, in hot water not to exceed 160° F. with soap or detergent; do not use bleaching agents.

**WASH IN WARM WATER—DO NOT BLEACH.** This garment can be washed in a commercial laundry, or in a home washing machine, in warm water not to exceed 120° F. with soap or detergent; do not use bleaching agents.

**WASH BY HAND IN LUKEWARM WATER—DO NOT BLEACH.** This garment must be washed by hand. Use lukewarm water, not to exceed 105° F. with soap or detergent, but do not use bleaching agents; press with hand iron.

**DRY CLEAN.** For garments which must be dry cleaned.

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