Discover Your Jewelry Personality

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Discover Your

Jewelry Personality

Jean Ary advises careful design planning in costume ornaments

In past years a woman, in addition to outshining her beautiful rivals, had the problem of outglittering her own jewels. Today, serving as an accomplice rather than a competitor, jewelry is intended to make one's own personality sparkle. It serves as a means of expression rather than a method of attracting attention. The right choice repeats personality; the wrong choice contradicts it.

Before buying any jewelry a woman should study her personal expression, then discover the expression that certain jewelry has and combine these two for the right effect. When individuality is sought so highly, it would be dangerous to say that all women are of definite types. However, it is possible to classify them on a personality scale. A woman should honestly evaluate herself and conform to the personality she is, rather than the one she would like to be.

Demure, graceful Jane, can wear grandmother's small, simple locket to perfection, while this same necklace looks almost frightened on Margaret with her forceful, dynamic personality. For a formal coiffure, Jane could effectively wear a delicate giant butterfly sequin with wings of subtle colors appearing as though it had gently lit on her smooth curls.

Margaret might choose a Javanese turban which is wound close to the skull with fullness swept to the nape in a chignon knot. Any small gold ornament such as Jane's would be entirely unsuited to her.

Trim, girlish Dottie, whose buoyant personality is fairly contagious, would look positively idiotic in a heavy gold necklace with dangling pendants. She should wear some gay, bright neckpiece such as one made of great links of mock tortoise shell, smart and light as air.

Stately Sylvia, who lends a majestic note to any room, is the ideal person to wear that lovely necklace with long rose quartz or turquoise stone drops. Whether you're the mild and gentle, youthful or dignified type, your jewelry must be bought with care. It should not be "the whole show" but merely a stepping stone to self expression.

Besides conforming to one's personality, jewelry must be of good design. When originated by excellent designers, it is not accessible to the average American woman. However, copies of good designs at lower price levels are obtainable. A person with a practical knowledge of art principles can detect one good design from a counter-full of poor ones.

The jewelry trend today is toward simplicity in good design. Fussiness is definitely to be avoided. In place of a scrolly, complicated design on a ring, select, for example, a sterling silver band set with tiny brilliants and crowned with a cabochon that resembles a cat's-eye.

The wholesome, unaffected girl should choose jewelry clear and direct in design. A link bracelet of gold-colored metal with a round name disk would be excellent for her. Plain monogram pins to clamp to collar or sweater are also good for this unassuming type.

The athletic girl also needs something direct in design. With every line typifying graceful motion, a simple horse's head makes an effective clasp to pin to the collar of that mannish, tailored shirt.

In sharp contrast, the sophisticate demands design that is elegant and eccentric. For her, designers produce their most dashing and daring work. She would be at home in a heavy, tinkling necklace of glass candy-sticks which demands a severe black gown for a background.

The quaint, romantic type, a trifle on the old-fashioned side, loves delicately feminine period designs. Grandmother's trunk is her jewel box.

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