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Clothing Notes Designed for Individuality

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These pastel rayon jersey dresses provide the foundation for a variety of summer ensembles because of their simple, softly tailored lines which are adaptable to many changes. The wide embroidered belt and the two-toned contrasting peplum add notes of interest.
Clothing Notes

Designed For Individuality

Gertrude Richards describes original methods of adding individuality to a summer wardrobe

The college woman who can wield a needle with ingenuity has an unlimited opportunity for achieving distinction and individuality in her wardrobe. There is no need to forego the pleasure and the smartness to be derived from custom-made accessories because of prohibitive prices or lack of opportunity for shopping.

A neat envelope bag with matching gloves can be made with a yard of white piqué and two balls of red crochet cotton. A simple commercial pattern may be used for the gloves and an inch-wide edging crocheted around the tops. To make the bag, fold a 14 by 20-inch rectangle of the piqué in half, stitch the side seams and edge the top with the same two-inch wide crochet stitch. A heavy braided cord pulled through the center of the edging makes it possible to wear the purse over the shoulder.

A sailor’s sea bag copied in black faille and bearing vari-colored labels rubber-stamped with the names of the Allied Nations will accent many costumes. The number of labels which are featherstitched at random on the bag depends on the original size of the bag. A matching hat may be made by cutting a triangle of the faille so that the base measures one inch more than the headsize. It is lined with pastel ribbons and the three points stitched together and covered by a small tailored bow.

To increase a wardrobe and still adhere to the conservation policy, a college woman can remodel a worn box coat without getting too involved in complicated tailoring. Just cut off the collar, lapels and the frayed strip down both sides of the front, including the buttonholes. Round the neckline, cut it to the new 25-inch finger-tip length and open the side seams four inches from the bottom. A two-inch bias-folded strip of jersey in a vivid contrasting color is effective as a binding but any lightweight wool or silk may be substituted. This oriental looking coat may be worn over everything from slacks to summer formals.

A simple bumper beret and heavy silk corded braid can result in a clever hat. The cord is twisted to form four flat circles the size of a half dollar and they are arranged on the top of the hat around a central circle that is knotted to form a slightly raised central peak. The use of black or navy braid on a pastel or brilliant felt is especially attractive.

Another version of the same hat may be made by crocheting a doily, the size of the top of the beret, and putting tassels around the edge so that they form a skirt that sways with every toss of the head. Dull silk embroidery thread in a contrasting color shows to the best advantage. The full effect of the fringe may be achieved by wearing the hat straight on top of the head.

For the college woman who always seems to need another skirt, an attractive labor-saving and material-saving one may be made from only \( \frac{3}{4} \) yard of 54-inch material. A length of Scotch plaid can be wrapped around the waist and the excess material lapped in front to provide a side-front closing. Darts on each side and in the back fit the waist and ribbon belting finishes the top. Fringe the bottom and front closing, fasten at the top with inside hooks and halfway down the front with a huge safety pin. The result is a kite that for thrifty beauty would be the envy of any true clansman.

The jumper possibilities in a simple dress of which you have tired should not be overlooked. Removing the sleeves, collar or lapels and cutting a deep V or oval neckline will make a new outfit.

There is no end to the variations in blouses that may be worn with these jumpers, but two especially attractive ones may be made from a basic slip-over pattern. The first one is made from two colors which are seamed together down the center front and back resulting in different colored sleeves.

The second version may be made by sewing rickrack braid across the entire blouse in horizontal stripes an inch apart. Brilliant contrasting colors will give an interesting Mexican effect.

A summer net formal which has become limp can be revived if it is dipped in a solution of sugar and water and ironed carefully while it is still damp. To achieve the bouffant effect of a dance frock, an underskirt of pastel tarleton can be made.

Dainty mitts may easily be made from a six-inch square of taffeta, lace or gingham which has been finished on all four sides with a narrow ruffle. They are worn with one point reaching the base of the third finger forming a triangle over the hand and leaving the fingers and thumb mittless. Black velvet ribbon fastened around the wrist adds the finishing touch.