Circled with Design

Ruth Deems
Iowa State College

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Circled with Design
by Ruth Deems

SPRING frocks are as gay and blithe as the first robin's chirp. Let's accent our own particular success story of the season by the right accessories.

Belts afford an interesting change to any costume, and this spring the leading designers say that belts play a leading role in all fashion shows. For your suit, you may choose soft sashes of silk with scarf or handkerchief to match. The luscious colored pastel wool frocks offer earth-rocking possibilities for a creative mind. Perk them up with belts of felt having designs embroidered in colored shells, snakeskin with high, fitted girdle front laced with self thongs; white skirt belt, with stitching in multi-colors. All these make you squinch your studying into as small amount of time as possible to give a chance for a bit of craftsmanship.

Wooden belts of geometric designs strung on raffia offer a multitude of possibilities. Raffia may be again used by dyeing in many colors, and stringing it with cross sections of black walnut shells which have been stained to a desired uniform color. Strips of upholstery materials may be either stitched or stenciled in interesting patterns.

With suede so obviously good this spring, why not make your gloves and belt of similar design and inlay your pattern? Those who have taken crafts courses assure that you won't find such a project difficult.

Suede is in black with silver stud-dings. Black suede with multicolored insets of cellophane, some having patterns worked on the fabric and protected with cellophane is interesting and distinctly new.

Have you seen the wide suede girdles with cork Indian boys and girls dangling from them, and those which have wooden Mexican sombreros poised in bright array across their front?

Canvas may be embroidered in motifs which resemble charm bracelets, with the work done in high colors and the fastenings of inch long hooks laced to fit with colored string in the embroidery colors. Long rope ends in many colors may knot in place and be drawn up to fit and left to hang down the front. You may even go the limit in sports accessories, and plan a raffia belt, bag, and sandals to match your costume.

Hose prove an interesting sidelight. Open spring shoes leave lacy patterns to show sheer hose. Icy, floral, and geometrical patterns on the instep are being shown for afternoon and evening wear. Mesh hose with colored heels, and even pastel-colored lisle hosiery for sports wear may be keyed to match your sweater colors and show up well in the fashion limelight.

The leather embroidered with metal threads and fringes that dramatize the period gloves you may see in museums are being copied by glove designers. They are toned down to modern use, but still keep the rich dramatic touch that charms women. Some are of very heavy sueded calf, rich and supple, and trimmed with a tracery of gold card thread to highlight the spring costume.

Heavy, closely crocheted types of gloves in string are the joy of the "sports girls'" existence. There may be bright colored fabric gloves with arrowhead trim to fall upon the back of the hand, open loops up the sides of the gloves, or imported kidskins with diagonal or lattice stitchings. Suede is enhanced by embroidered flowers or petit point selections. For afternoon sheer thread mesh, of even twelve button lengths, often have an unusual fingernail detail.

Have you ever intended to hang a small picture where a larger one had been, only to find a streak on the wall where the bottom of the former picture had hung? Try placing a thumbtack at the bottom of both corners at the back of the picture frame. This will allow the air to circulate between the wall and the picture and prevent the unpleasing streak.

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