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STOP THAT MOTH!

By Gretchen Hall

SOFT breezes and warm sunshine are coaxing you into bright cool cottons.
The soft sweater that was warm and cozy in December is sweltering in May. You want to get rid of it—and quick. Where are you going to put it? Give it to a rummage sale, throw it in the closet or bury it in a drawer? Yes, shout the hungry moths. No, you reply if you dislike ventilated sweaters.
The battle begins, and the condition of your clothes next fall will decide the winner. Here are a few tips to help you outwit the pests:

Your enemy is a worm or larva which has developed from an egg. After eating for a few weeks it will grow wings. You want to kill him before he reaches the eating stage because your clothes are his food.

Moth Chasers
Clean clothes are free of eggs. Winged moths cannot lay eggs on clothing sealed up tight. Moth preventives poison any larvae which develop during storage. There, you have him stopped in all three stages.

The jelly spot on that sweater looks good to a moth tired of a wool diet. Cleaning or washing will sweater bags with a moth preventive inside will keep all your sweaters and wool jersey blouses clean and whole until September.

Your new long skirts and casual wool date dresses are also on Mr. Moth's number one list. You can defeat him in one blow by sending them to the cleaners, who will seal them in heavy, cedar treated bags for a small charge. An extra closet at home can be filled with clean woolens, a bug bomb released, and the closet sealed for the summer. Be sure your plaid slacks, flannel robe, angora mittens and wool longies are inside, too, before you seal it for good.

Other Nuisances
All closet nuisances are not six-legged creatures.
The droopy sag of your once smooth fitting crepe dress might have been prevented if it had been folded and laid in a box. Net or marquisette formals and circular skirts also will keep their even hemlines if they are stored in boxes.

Don't fold heavy taffetas or velvets. Creases may split the material or leave a permanent mark. Your lovely drop shoulder taffeta formal with the full
skirt can be turned wrong side out and hung by the waist seam. The shoulder seams easily split when they are supporting the weight of the whole dress.

Even your wool felt hat and its feather trim are in danger. Brush, wrap in tissue paper, add moth crystals and store in a box for safekeeping through the summer.

Mouton coats can take hard wear all season without showing it but quiver at the sight of a moth in the summer. Send your fur to a fur storage company for a beauty treatment, insurance and cold storage.

Have you ever seen a suit or coat with humps on the shoulders? Wire hangers crease the shoulder pads so that they stand up instead of molding smoothly to you. Inexpensive men's wooden suit hangers are one solution. A woman's model with skirt clamps on the lower bar is also available. You can make your own padded hangers by covering a narrow wooden hanger with cotton and then winding ribbon tightly around it. Add sachet powder to the cotton if you like.

You'll be wearing sandals and spectators with cottons so put those suede pumps away for the summer. Stuff the toes with tissue paper to keep them round. Protect the suede from bumps with tissue paper, or plastic and knit drawstring bags.

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