

Trends . . .

in waists

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THE WALLPAPER WAIST is a miracle-maker for your figure and your wardrobe this spring. It is a fitted midriff giving you a narrow, sculptured waistline, making you whistle slim.

You can find this silhouette in dresses, suits, coats and skirts. It is the basic style for cotton, linen, silk, leather, wool and man-made textiles, and is shown in the princess and empire lines. The molded midriff either continues in pencil-thin skirts or flares into petticoat fullness. The narrow sheath dress and coat are only for the curvaceous figure; but a slim suit and skirt can be finely fitted for most forms.

The wallpaper waist that flares into a generous full skirt is fashion fine for all fabrics and occasions. Glazed or sheer cotton dresses, with abundant skirt yardage, are sunshine beautiful when you see them in the spring pastels, red and pink, black and white, stripes or polka dots. Appliques, embroidery and jewels enhance the sparkle of the new wallpaper waisted frocks.

Fabrics Fit the Style

The heavier or stiffer rayons, wools, nylons and linens are especially suited for the princess line, and they are constructed with the concentrated skirt fullness in gathers below the natural waist. Upholstery and quilted materials that are gored or cut with a circular skirt achieve the swishing fullness. Layers of starched petticoats under all the full skirts will give you that wished-for-rustle when you walk and will emphasize the nipped-in waist.

Suits follow dresses in the basic wallpaper waisted style, and the same construction variations of neckline design occur in both. The wide draped or portrait neckline will frame your face with a dramatic feeling. Or a high-necked bodice with a small peter pan or banded collar tied with a streamer bow in back will give a demure dash to a dainty damsel.

No matter how the neckline for the wallpaper waisted dress is treated, a white starched pique or linen collar is the standard trim. Perky and pretty as a fresh-picked daisy, the peter pan collar, bib dickey or large lay-back collar you wear can be your essential white spring splash.

A high tapering waistline characterizes the wallpaper skirts. Just below the waist the skirts are again either form-fitting or flared with gores on a circular cut.

Flesh color and navy blue are predicted to be spring's special hues. These two are the natural neutrals to form the frame of your wallpaper waisted wardrobe. The simple princess pattern in dresses, skirts, suits and coats are the best basics for these neutrals.

This is your wallpaper waist, the fashion focal point and the hub around which the color wheel and the spokes of style variations revolve.

Martha King, H. Ec. Sr., models the wallpaper waistline in a princess-style dress.

