



When it comes to fashion, the proper petticoat can make the difference. Note how the graceful lines enhance the June bride's wedding gown.

IN FULL-SKIRTED summer fashions as well as wedding gowns, it's what's underneath that makes the difference. A droopless petticoat is the basis for the bouffant silhouette—how droopless it is depends upon the selection, care and storage of the petticoat.

The pastel shades of net fluff and the crinoline skirts are satisfactory under light summer cottons, but a completely different type of petticoat is needed under heavy winter taffetas or a wedding dress.

window screen for petticoats

A new idea for damp climates and heavy skirts has been tried with much success by the University of Miami coeds. Plastic screening was purchased from hardware stores and made into full petticoats. The skirt was made with the "drop" waistline to eliminate bulges and bulk under partially fitted fashions. The edges were bound with seam tape to avoid scratching. Screening comes in two colors—olive green and charcoal grey—so if you want to wear it under pastels a full cover petticoat can be slipped over it. Screen petticoats need little laundering and no starching.

An old friend in every college girl's closet is the nylon horsehair or the stiffened nylon marquissette underskirt. Excellent for wear under most dresses, they are easy to care for and to store.

Wedding dresses and formals present a problem all their own, but hoops offer a quick solution if you have the time to practice in them before the "big day."

Continual care and protection of your slips will give them longer life. Adaptable for girls who live in limited space (and who doesn't?) is the nylon hose trick for storing petticoats. The waist of the petticoat is drawn up into the toe of the stock. This keeps the skirt from becoming soiled, and enables you to pin several of these sock holders to one hanger.

collapsible hoops

Modern southern belles have taken tips from the Civil War days and developed a two-tiered hoop which can be adjusted from one foot to three and a half feet in diameter. The plastic hoop is constructed with a series of hinges to allow it to collapse into a small carrying case about the size of a small hat box.

In case your wedding dress is voluminous, you can make an inexpensive hoop with aluminum clothesline wire and muslin. Be sure that you can easily get through doors without bending the hoop.

No washing machine should ever come within washing distance of your slip. Mild soap suds, warm water and a stiff brush usually do the trick. Extra stiffness can be added by gently squeezing a plastic starch through the fabric. Petticoats should be dried away from sunlight and direct heat, which are harmful to all synthetic fabrics.

Damp days and summer wearing could leave you and your petticoats drooping if you're not careful! But thought in selection, storage and care of your petticoats can keep you both looking fresh as a daisy.

TRENDS

in

petticoats

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