

from the notebook of Edith Head



FOR FORMAL AFTER-NOONS: Honey beige Lesur wool skirt, matching vest, white silk shirt. Tailored effect gives slim look, tapers figure nicely.



FOR DINNER WEAR: Short cinnamon pink poult de soie, softly flared skirt over matching net petticoats, wrap-around bodice that ties on side. Matching sandals.



FOR SPORTS OR DAY WEAR: Slim circular skirt of sage green Lesur wool, matching waist-length jacket, white cashmere sweater, belt and pumps of rust calf.



FOR FORMAL EVENING WEAR: New ankle length black velvet gown, matching scarf lined in white mink. Lining is detachable for less-formal wear.

EDITH HEAD ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS:

Send your fashion problems to Edith Head, 451 N. Canon Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

FULL SKIRTS: Dear Miss Head, I'm a teenager, 5' 7", 128 pounds, with measurements 32, 23, 34. I just adore full skirts, but I look very hippy in them. Is there any type of full skirts I can wear? I've been wearing straight skirts only, because I think they make me look better. (Laura Lee M., Grand Rapids, Mich.)

In my opinion, a neat, trim waist-line is the most important part of your figure. According to your measurements, you have one. I also think full skirts are much more becoming to the adolescent figure than any other style. I would think a 5' 7" teenager in a straight skirt would appear too ungainly—too straight up and down. If I were you, I would forget the extra inch or so and wear all your beautiful full skirts. Your hips will be minimized if you color-match waist or sweater to your skirt.

BOWLEGS AND THE BEACH: Dear Miss Head, I would like to know if there's anything in the world a bow-legged person can do at the beach to cover up her legs and still not appear out of place? I haven't been able to go swimming with

my friends all summer just because I would be so terribly embarrassed. It's no fun sitting home alone. What could you suggest? (Miss C. M., Sonora, Calif.)

If you are sensitive about your bowlegs, going to the beach does present a problem. However, if you feel they are actually bad, you might try to find one of the new beach skirts which are made of terry cloth—of street length—and wear it until you actually go swimming. Select a color to match your bathing suit. And you can always do it after your swim.

RED AND REDHEAD: Dear Miss Head, I have seen in a fashion magazine that some models with red hair are the only ones who can wear red in a fashion show. Having red hair, I would like to know if I should follow suit and wear red? If so, what shades do you recommend, and what shades of lipstick?

I do not like pure red on a red head. I do like certain shades of soft pink, flame tones and rust. But no reds at all that have tones of purple or magenta. This advice would also apply to the shades of your lipsticks.

THICK ANKLES: Dear Miss Head, I am quite tall and long legged. My ankles are a bit thick, although my legs aren't too badly shaped. I enjoy wearing black seamed hose, and black heels on my hose. Is this wrong? I wear plain pumps rather than straps, although I would like to wear a slipper-type dress shoe if it would look good. Could I? (Mrs. June L., Stockton, California)

How nice to be tall and have long legs! This is a definite advantage. Don't worry about your ankles being a bit thick. However, you are making a bad mistake in calling attention to them with black heels and black seams on your hose. You are wise to wear plain pumps rather than strapped shoes for exactly the same reason that you shouldn't wear contrasting seams. You ask about the shades of hose that would be the most flattering; however, the shade is less important than the sheerness and depends a lot upon the colors you're wearing at the time. Most stockings are now made with color charts included. To give a slimmer leg line, the sheerer, the better.

TEEN ON A BUDGET: Dear

Miss Head, I am 14 years old, and because my family is on a strict budget it is often hard to have enough clothes for all of my school activities. Neither my mother nor I sew so I must buy all my clothes. Could you tell me what colors to wear to make my dark blonde hair seem lighter? I have blue eyes and a pink complexion. (Eva G., Havana, Ill.)

For anyone who is on a "strict budget," I would advise "separates"—blouses and skirts—sweaters and skirts. And hold to one or two basic colors. Black, brown, navy and dark grey would be good basic colors for you, as well as most of the deep, rich colors such as dark green. They will make your blonde hair appear lighter and your skin fairer. Too, if you stick to one or two basic colors, it is less expensive to have matching bag and shoes. Sweaters and skirts in the same color is very smart. You can add contrast in a pretty scarf, a Peter Pan collar and/or nosegay and belt. And don't buy anything until you make a complete inventory of your wardrobe. If you have a pair of light tan shoes, it would be nice to match a belt or a bag as they would go with practically any color in your wardrobe. ◀