

Study Your School Before You Go All Out On Choosing A College Wardrobe

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New Journal and Guide (1916-2003); May 5, 1951;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Norfolk Journal and Guide (1921-2003)

pg. D8

later you'll be able to add odd jackets, another skirt or so, a couple of woolen dresses, and more sweaters or blouses.

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By MARY R. HUNTER

NOT LONG AFTER the strains of the graduation march fade into the air, scores of teen-agers in Norfolk will begin thinking about their college wardrobes. The problem, while one that is easily solved without bankrupting father, is still a mighty one, for too much or too little in a girl's trunk can make or break her college years.

First, though, you must study the school you have chosen. Many smaller colleges, particularly the colored ones, have student bodies where a great deal of stress is put on one's wardrobe, and social adjustment may be difficult if you are not up to standard. Other larger and more cosmopolitan schools, particularly in the East and Midwest, and particularly the mixed schools, do not put too much stress on one's clothing.

HOWEVER WITH CARE, a basic minimum wardrobe can be worked out which will meet all standards at all schools.

Starting with school clothes: plan to take along a good basic suit preferably styled on classic lines and in a dark color (navy, brown, or black) which can be dressed up or down with accessories. Count on at least two skirts, one plain or striped, to take many sweaters and blouses, and one a plain color . . . gray flannel is good. You will need sweaters . . . neat ones that fit you well, and jersey blouses to go with your skirts. A half dozen in assorted colors will do nicely. At the same time, pick up a good crepe blouse for your suit, for dressier affairs.

Two "date dresses" . . . one a classic black, and the other a brighter, jewel-toned color with a slightly lower neckline will take you to almost any social affair. Try to pick a black dress with lines which will take scarves, or jewelry to change it.

A SMART GIRL can get along with one evening gown, and an evening skirt. The gown can be worn to all formal dances. The skirt, teamed with a plain sleeveless blouse, will do for dinners, concerts, and semi-formal dances. Add a wide, wide belt for the skirt, or a sash, and you've got several evening gowns.

Some colleges do not permit the girls to wear slacks to class . . . others have no ruling on this. Find out, before you go on a slack buying spree. If you have the figure for them, though, at least one pair of slacks will be handy for dorm lounging, sports events, and Saturdays.

Your laundry system will determine the amount of underwear you'll need. However, a good estimate is a half dozen pairs of pants . . . and if you're smart enough to get nylon, you can do with half that number for they wash easily . . . four slips, two white, one black, and a pink one. Some of the slips should be plain tailored ones, but the others could be frothy with lace.

YOU'LL ALSO NEED at least three bras, one of them black, and a strapless bra to wear with your gown, and at least two girdles, or garter belts. Don't buy stockings in large numbers, for they may shop-rot, or fade. Three pairs of pajamas, a woolen robe or a cotton housecoat, or both, will see you through.

As for shoes, if you plan to wear socks during the day, you should have two pairs of shoes for them . . . maybe a pair of loafers, and a pair of the pretty suede crepe-soled oxfords. (Incidentally, while socks only are the vogue at most schools.) You'll need a pair of black suede opera pumps for your dresses, and a pair of sandals for your evening gown.

Smart shopping will find you a winter coat with lines good enough for day and evening wear. Don't

for Sundays and dates.

ADD TO THIS your own number of belts, gloves, jewelry and other accessories, and you're all set.

By learning to take good care of your clothes . . . repairing them promptly and cleaning them often, you'll manage to keep this basic wardrobe, and