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DESIGNING A SIMPLE BLOUSE

by

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SUGGESTIONS FOR DEMONSTRATORS.

1. The work and explaining of the demonstration should be divided about **equally** between the demonstrators.
2. Prepare an exhibit of attractive blouses if possible. Very often some may be borrowed from your local stores.
3. Prepare posters showing attractive blouses for different figures. These may be selected from current fashion books.
4. Have charts to show the effect of line.
5. Show by posters how common defects may be remedied.
6. Draft a kimona blouse. Give each woman a chance to draft a pattern for herself.
7. Show how the kimona draft may be changed.
8. On living model show the different effects obtained by adding beads, ties, buttons, and various ornaments.
9. Have each woman bring the following to the meeting:

Paper for cutting patterns.	Tape measure.
Shears	Needles.
Pins	
Cloth and colored floss for taking off decorative stitches.	
10. Results of demonstration should be:
 - (a) More thought given to designing.
 - (b) Better knowledge of pattern.
 - (c) Consideration of colors and their combination.
 - (d) Unity of the costume secured.
11. Give each member literature on Designing of Blouse.

DISCUSSION

- I. Suitable selection including design, color, quality, and suitability.
- II. Patterns:
 - (a) Selection
 - (b) AlterationDrafting of Kimona Pattern.

Reference:

Designing Your Own Costume..University of Idaho, Boise, Idaho.
Planning The Costume..Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.
Color Combination in Clothing..Extension Service, Lincoln, Nebr.
Principal of Color and Design.. " " " "
Selection and Care of Clothing..Farmers' Bulletin 1089, U. S.
Department of Agriculture.

"The woman who is well dressed knows what to put on, how to put it on and when to wear it."

Every woman should study her own features and figure and know what lines, colors, and materials will bring out her best points. She should know her defects and how best to disguise them.

A well dressed woman is one whose clothes are well chosen. It does not mean a large expenditure of money, but selecting the clothes to fit the person. Our clothes should be appropriate for the occasion.

A dressy blouse should not be worn with a very plain tailored skirt. Lines of a blouse are determined by seams, the belt, the trimming, the folds and pleats, tucks, collar and cuffs. To get a pleasing effect there must be

one idea carried out for the whole blouse. There must be unity. The following general rule should be considered:

1. Vertical lines increase the height and decrease the width of a given space.
2. Horizontal lines decrease the height and increase the width of space.
3. The effect of oblique lines may be either vertical or horizontal, depending upon the slant.
4. Broad space appears shorter than narrow spaces of the same length.
5. Long spaces appear narrow than short spaces of the same width.
6. A broken line or space appears shorter than an unbroken line or space.
7. Repeating a line emphasizes it.

Very few women have a perfect figure. The woman who acknowledges to herself her own deficiencies, and bases her dress upon her finest points will make the most pleasing impression.

Some common defects with suggestions for improvement

Square shoulders, use a round neckline or a rolling collar; the armholes should be cut out considerable at the top, or kimona sleeve may be used. Avoid square neck line or any severe angular line.

Round or Sloping, the shoulder seam should be moved back a little. Kimona or other loose sleeves are desirable. If a rolling collar is used it should fit close to the neck in the back.

A short waist, wear a low waist line or use vertical lines in the waist to give length.

A Long Waist, wide girdles may be worn. Horizontal lines in waist and vertical lines in skirt will produce a balance between the two.

A Long Neck, a round neck line, rolling or high collars should be worn.

A Short Neck, V-shaped neck line or a flat collar suggests length.

A Flat Chest, frill at the neck or a loose full waist suggests fullness of figure.

An over-developed Bust; a plain waist, loose waist line, vertical lines for decorations and dull material should be chosen.

Long Thin Arms, avoid long tight fitting sleeves. Use sleeves that are flaring, puffed or trimmed with conspicuous cuffs.

Short Fat Arms, avoid full flaring or elaborately trimmed sleeves. Use long, easy fitting sleeves that curve over the hand slightly.

Color

Color is of great importance. It either attracts or repels. It expresses refinement or the lack of it.

A color that is becoming is one that brings out the best color of the wearer's eyes, complexion and hair. Before buying a color drape it around you

to see what effect it has. If the color of the eyes seems to fade it is not a good selection. The color of the eyes should be deepened by color selected. Select colors that seem to bring out the best coloring in the complexion. Do not select those that make you look sallow. If a person has very high coloring they should not wear colors that intensify the high coloring.

Bright colors make the figure more conspicuous. Know what is becoming and appropriate. Guard against extremes, buy good materials. Good materials are economy in the end, as they wear better, and make one feel that it is necessary to take care of them.

Materials that are soft in texture fall in graceful vertical folds and make one look more slender than stiff materials. Figured materials emphasize surface and make one appear larger. Shiny materials reflect light and give the appearance of roundness. A satin blouse will make a person look larger than a crepe of the same color and design.

Edna Mann Shover says: "The face must always be the center of interest; if the costume in any detail of it detracts from the face, the design is a failure. The line of the costume should add grace and ease to the appearance of the figure; the proportion of a well proportioned figure, whether it is naturally so or not; the color should be charming, a delight to a sensitive eye. The ornament in every detail, should be in harmony with the costume as a whole and in keeping with the character of the general style of the garment. The entire effect should be of lasting interest to the wearer; she should not become tired of its general appearance after wearing it a few times."

Adjusting a Waist

Waist patterns are bought according to bust measure. It is well to buy a simple easily fitted pattern, one with seam on shoulder, set in sleeves, but with no gathers or tucks. Decorative features may be added. This pattern may be adjusted to fit and used as a guide pattern for future use, altering as desired.

For taking the bust measure; measure from back, placing the tape measure over the fullest part of the bust. Cover the shoulder blades at the back.

If loose in the neck, pin up shoulder seam at neck and slope to armhole. This will make neck too high. Clip and trim out. If fine wrinkles appear at right angles to shoulder, rip the shoulder seam and carry the front farther over to back. If there are wrinkles from tip of shoulder to armholes, pin deeper shoulder seam at armhole, sloping to neck. This will make armhole too small. Clip and trim or open shoulder seam and pull straight letting back come well forward. If there are wrinkles around armhole, shoulder seam too long. Rip under arm and lap front on to back.

