

South Dakota State University

Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange

SDSU Extension Fact Sheets

SDSU Extension

1961

Buying Ready-to-Wear for Children

Cooperative Extension, South Dakota State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_fact

Historical, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



For current policies and practices, contact SDSU Extension

Website: extension.sdstate.edu

Phone: 605-688-4792

Email: sdsu.extension@sdstate.edu

SDSU Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer in accordance with the nondiscrimination policies of South Dakota State University, the South Dakota Board of Regents and the United States Department of Agriculture.

buying ready-to-wear for children

Ready-to-wear for children is divided into five classifications: infants and babies, toddlers, children, boys, and girls. The age range in many of these classifications overlaps. Some toddlers' sizes are smaller than the largest babies' sizes; and the biggest toddlers' sizes are larger than the smallest children's sizes. The standard sizes recognized by most garment manufacturers are based on many body measurements which aid the manufacturer in producing properly proportioned garments. These are determined by averaging height and weight within a given age range.

BUY BY SIZE—NOT BY AGE

To understand the present arrangement of size grouping, the important thing to remember is that the child's age has very little bearing on the size that will fit—height and weight are the best guide.

The following chart gives standard measurements that go with the five classifications according to size, height and weight, as set forth by the Commercial Standards recognized by the garment industry.

	Size	Height	Weight
Infants & Babies	3 months	24"	13 lbs.
	6 months	26½"	18 lbs.
	12 months	29"	22 lbs.
	18 months	31½"	26 lbs.
	24 months	34"	29 lbs.
	36 months	36½"	32 lbs.
Toddlers*	size 1	31"	25 lbs.
	size 2	34"	29 lbs.
	size 3	37"	34 lbs.
	size 4	40"	38 lbs.
Children*	size 2	34"	29 lbs.
	size 3†	37"	34 lbs.
	size 4	40"	38 lbs.
	size 5	43"	44 lbs.
	size 6	46"	49 lbs.
	size 6X	48"	54 lbs.
Girls	size 7	50"	60 lbs.
	size 8	52"	67 lbs.
	size 9	54"	75 lbs.
	size 10	56"	83 lbs.
	size 12	58½"	95 lbs.
	size 14	61"	107 lbs.

By Anna D. Walker, Extension Clothing Specialist.

OUR CHILDREN'S CLOTHING—SERIES 1

buying
ready-to-wear
for children

Cooperative Extension Service



F.S. 89

Boys	size	height	weight
	size 7	48"	54 lbs.
	size 8	50"	59 lbs.
	size 9	52"	65 lbs.
	size 10	54"	73 lbs.
	size 11	56"	80 lbs.
	size 12	58"	87 lbs.
	size 13	59½"	93 lbs.
	size 14	61"	100 lbs.
	size 15	62½"	107 lbs.
	size 16	64"	115 lbs.
	size 17	65"	121 lbs.
	size 18	66"	126 lbs.
	size 19	67"	132 lbs.
	size 20	68"	138 lbs.

*Note that the body measurements for toddlers' sizes 2, 3 and 4 are the same as those for children's sizes 2, 3 and 4.

†Sometimes these garments are marked size 3L to indicate additional length and to distinguish them from toddlers' size 3.

Even after you have taken your child's correct height and weight and have consulted the standard measurement chart, a garment bearing the size indicated on the table may not always fit. There are a number of reasons for this. Not all manufacturers make clothing to conform to the sizing standards (watch for the ones which do); the child's body proportions may vary from the standard set forth on the chart; or the style of the garment may be a factor. Some children wear one size in one style and a different size in another. Judge the right size for your child by fit and comfort. If you cannot fit the child in the store take the garment out on approval and if it is not satisfactory return it.

Some homemakers like to shop for children's clothing by mail order. Studying the catalogue description and checking the size charts against the body measurements of your child at home, is often easier than to take the child to the store for fitting.

CHECK THESE POINTS FOR GOOD FIT

Here are some points to consider when you are checking your children's clothing for good fit.

Is the *collar* low enough in the front to be comfortable and snug enough in the back so that it doesn't ride up or slip down? Gapping or binding will both cause irritation.

Check the shoulders. They should be wide enough and roomy enough so that when the child moves his arms they will not bind at the back and chest. If they are too wide they will not stay in place and be comfortable.

Check the sleeves. Roomy sleeves are generally

more comfortable. Look for cuffs which are slightly loose.

Check the waistline. Allow a little room for growth and longer wear. Elastic part of the way will be a good feature for growth adjustment. Watch, however that the elastic is not too tight.

Check the length. Skirts and blouses should be long enough to tuck in at the waist and stay there. Check the trouser crotch seam to see that it is long enough not to bind. A crotch seam which is too long will be uncomfortable too. Overlong legs in slacks and trousers may cause tripping. Generous hems will permit lengthening.

Check for roominess. If the garment is to be worn over other garments fit it over such garments so that enough allowance is made for this bulk. This would be especially important in buying such garments as snow suits for winter wear.