

Pictures in the Home



IN the arrangement of pictures in the home, there are several things besides the choice of subjects to be taken into account. To begin with, the background against which they are to be placed is an important consideration. A much flowered wall-paper, or one with a decided or brilliant pattern, quite overpowers the pictures, and almost makes them seem superfluous. The paper or other wall covering of a room, against which pictures are to be hung, should be in one color, of some subdued tint, and without definite pattern. The picture frames and their contents stand out best from a plain wall surface. The frames, it goes without saying, should not be of such a style as to obtrude themselves or call attention from the picture.

The relative position towards one another is also to be considered. It need hardly be said that oil paintings and water colors should not be hung side by side. The former are considered suitable for the library, dining-room, hall, or a large drawing-room, and in some stately homes they are also hung on the stair-case landings. Water-colors are in place in drawing-room, sitting-room, or boudoir, and good engravings may be disposed anywhere, so long as they are not side by side with oils or water-colors. Similarly, oil pictures should not be in juxtaposition with colored prints or pastels, both on account of the lack of harmony in the quality of color, and the difference in the style of frames suitable in each case.

A mistake often made in hanging pictures lies in placing them too high. They should be on a line with the eyes, or, in other words, at a height where they may be look-

ed at directly, not seen, as it were, from below. We have all seen pictures hung so high that they had to be tilted at a considerable angle from the wall to be on view at all. Every picture looks best with the light falling upon it from the same direction as when it was painted, but it is not always possible to hang it in a position that will bring this about. Directly opposite a window is a disadvantageous position, causing the light to fall straight upon the picture in a way to give it a hard, flat surface. Arranging pictures of exactly the same size in rows is to be avoided. A picture should not have the appearance of having won its place on account of its size or adaptability to circumstances rather than through its own merit. At the same time, one must guard against lack of balance, and want of repose. Small pictures may be fastened to the wall, not hung by a cord or wire. It is a good idea to have the cord, or chain, or whatever is used to suspend the picture, stained or painted exactly the color of the wall surface, so as to be entirely inconspicuous.

All pictures of any value should be protected against dust, and to this end the backs should be pasted over with brown paper. It is also ruinous for a picture to be left hanging in a situation that is in the least damp.



NO. 5908.—LADIES' BLOUSE.

The fashion for blouse waists completed by dainty lace chemisettes is a becoming one, and admits of various effects. Deep tucks are arranged over the shoulders in front and back, and the neck is finished by a prettily shaped trimming band. If preferred, the sleeves may be full length, the deep cuffs being made of lace corresponding to the chemisette. As pictured, the waist is shown in foulard silk, but most of the season's materials will make up stylishly such as taffeta, poplin, voile and cashmere. For 36 inches bust measure 2 3-4 yards of 36 inch material will be required. Sizes for 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.



NO. 5927.—SMALL GIRLS' COAT.

A smart, serviceable little coat of tan cover could easily be developed after this design. The garment is cut on the simplest lines, the back is seamless and the front laps in double breasted style. The plain sleeves are completed by prettily shaped cuffs. A collar-facing of brown velvet strapped with the cloth, gives the finishing touch to the stylish little garment. Cheviot, storm serge, broadcloth, and English suiting will all develop well after this design. For a child of 12 years 2 1-2 yards of 44 inch material will be required. Sizes for 8, 10, 12 and 14 years.

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