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# HOLIDAY TOGS

## For the Youngest Set

by Hester  
Winthrop

Christmas  
Dinner  
Costume  
with Cream  
Silk Skirt  
and Brown  
Velvet  
Douse

PHOTOS  
BY JOEL  
FEDER

**Simplicity But Never Monotony In Childish Apparel—Small Girls Wear Skirts Short of the Knee—Frills and Buttons On Youthful Frocks—Velvet and Taffeta for the Small Miss—Party Dresses.**

**S**IMPLICITY is more than an ideal with the builders of children's clothes. It is a fact. Simplicity is aimed at in all the raiment for childhood, from the toddling age to the teens. But in modern raiment for childhood, this carefully planned simplicity never becomes monotony. In each little frock and hat and coat is evidenced an individuality and smartness that proves the enormous difference in time given to these clothes of childhood. Specialists have the matter in hand—people who do nothing else but study and design costumes for small folk. Old prints, old paintings, quaint other-century styles offer much of the inspiration for new designs and children's garb is artistic and interesting as never it was before.

Take the velvet coat pictured, for instance; there is a fascinating suggestion of the fifteenth century in this graceful coat with its cape over the shoulders, its rounded neckline, and its soft little cap to match. Various heroes of romance, clad in velvet caps and capes of similar style come to mind as one looks at this beautiful costume for a little maid of eleven or twelve years. Coat and cap are of deep wine-colored chifon velvet with trimming bands of black satin. The buttons down the front are of rose-gilt and there are more of these buttons on the shoulders of the cape and on hip pockets of the coat. The soft velvet drapes gracefully over shoulder and arm—for the coat you perceive has sleeves under its extra cape—and though the garment is loose and easy in line it seems to fit the little figure as trimly as a frock. This is because of the beautiful quality of the velvet. Though the soft tam cap is an informal sort of headgear, it accords in this case with the artistic velvet coat and becomes an affair for formal occasions. The little maid is smartly dressed for a Christmas party—her party frock well covered by her long velvet coat—and with this formal afternoon costume she wears, correctly, stockings of heavy ribbed black silk and patent leather boots with buttoned cloth tops. These boots are worthy of special study, so admirable are they in their good style, their shapeliness and their perfect proportion for the childish foot. There is a low heel just enough heel to support the arch of the growing foot; the lines at instep and ankle are trim, and the toe gives plenty of room for the little foot to set itself square on the ground in walking.

### French Coats Very Short

The French child wears her skirts several inches above her knee—even the flapper of twelve or thirteen years has these very abbreviated skirts. But the French mamma has also very short petticoats this season; sixteen inches from the ground is not at all an extreme shortness for a Parisian tailored skirt. So naturally, childish skirts have to be very short too, to differentiate them from grown-up skirts, else mamma and little daughter might be hard to tell apart from a back view—so similar are general modes for women and little girls. The velvet coat just described, worn by a French child, would not fall over the knee. And the frock in another picture, combining velvet tunic and pleated skirt, would surely

be short enough to escape the knee by several inches on so young a child. But here in America childish skirts are longer, just as grown up skirts are longer, than in Paris.

The velvet tunic and pleated skirt constitute a very stunning little costume, say, for Christmas dinner when all one's aunts and uncles will be present and one wants to look very modish and impressive. The machine pleated skirt is of cream white silk and the short tunic of brown velvet is embroidered with cream silk flowers around the neck opening. The tunic is sleeveless and is worn over a long-sleeved guimpe of cream silk like the skirt.

**Flapper Party Frocks Enchanting.** For a Christmas week party, of course, is the fascinating frock of pale pink chifon with so many fluttery little ruffles that the costume seems fairly to float. Simplicity itself is in this chifon party frock for a young girl. The gathered skirt has seven gathered ruffles placed two inches apart from hem to hip, and the top ruffle is narrower than the others—one of these clever little touches that give proportion and style without interfering with the felicitous simplicity. The straight,

elbow sleeve has two tiny ruffles and little ruffles outline the two niches, one over the other, that drape about neck and shoulders. The ash is of pale pink satin ribbon and the little maid wears slippers and silk stockings to match her frock. Dainty girlhood personified is she not—in all this flutter of filmy rose color?

A French party frock for a girl of seven is of cherry-colored velvet, oddly fashioned. The extremely short skirt is cut in scallops so that it looks like inverted flower petals, and all around the scalloped edges are tiny overlapping frills of cherry-colored ribbon. No bodice is visible, a deep bertha of the velvet, also scalloped at the edge, falling from a rounded neckline to just below the waistline. The bertha covers the arms to the elbow and under the bertha there is a sleeveless silk waist to which the little skirt is attached. At back and front of the bertha are slashes through which a cherry-colored satin ash is drawn so that the bertha elings against the figure at back and front, flaring over the arms at either side. The narrow ribbon frills trim the scalloped bertha also. Taffeta is used for party dresses

for little and big girls. And there are taffeta afternoon costumes too, usually with a sashed tunic above a ruffled or gathered skirt. Very bright, cheery shades of taffeta are selected and the party frocks are apt to be in cheery, canary yellow, buff or some other noticeable shade.

### Brown Fashionable For Childhood Too

Children, as well as grown-ups, are wearing a great deal of brown this winter and the brown shades have great favor for youthful coats and hats. A smart French coat is of cañon brown vicuña, the only trimming buttons, and the lines tremendously chic. The armholes are very large and are almost as low as the elbow, the straight, loose sleeve being attached to panels at front and back of the coat. These panels fall just below the waistline and have small black buttons all the way across their lower edge. Buttons run up the sleeve to the armhole, around the oval top of the front panel and along the edge of a scarf collar that twists about the throat and is flung over one shoulder. This is an ideal coat for wear over fluffy party frocks, for the lines are so loose and the material is both

A Party Frock Made of Shell Pink Chifon, all Afluff with Little Frills.

A Good Warm Topcoat Makes a Practical Present.

Velvet Coat for Wear Over Holiday Dress Frocks with Velvet Turn to Match.

warm and very light in weight. A practical and good looking coat for a youngster of five to ten years is pictured in the belted model of diagonal chevrot. A warm yet not heavy coat is this, double breasted and with a splendid big collar that may be worn a number of ways. Belt, buttons and pockets have a snappy smartness for youthful taste and Santa Claus has picked out more than one of these excellent little topcoats for practical Christmas gifts.

### Linen Dresses For The House

Very few children, these days, have

to wear wool frocks indoors because of the cold. American homes are too well heated for that and even when skirt and sleeveless waist are of wool material there is usually a glimpse of thinner stuff. These little guimpes are being made now of soft, fine handkerchief linen, as distinctive shirtwaists for women are. And linen frocks are favored for house and play wear. An engaging little frock of green linen is pictured. Touches of white braid and buttons, and black ribbon tie make the soft green frock very attractive. The small girl will at once note with approval the cunning watch pocket—pr "chance" pocket if one wears a wrist-watch—on the left side of the yoke. The depth of this yoke and its curved shape add to the smartness of the little costume. The bonnie Scotch cap with its thistle embroidery at one side of course accompanies a frock of clan plaid, made with a pleated skirt and a sleeveless bodice over a neat, boyish shirt of fine white linen. Wool stockings, rolled down over the knee accompany this Scotch costume and the boyish tie and collar are part of the smart style of the costume.

### FLEECE SHEETS FOR COLD BEDROOMS

If your bed stands in an outdoor sleeping-porch all winter discard ordinary cotton sheets and have the cozy fleece sheets which are delightful to crawl into and which launder just like the ordinary kind.

the times of a silver table fork will "do."

Tiny aeroplanes appear this year among the plate favors. A pretty idea is the cardboard aeroplane, a silhouetted affair, which may be poised on the rim of a water goblet—as the butterfly and bird favors have been poised in past seasons—and looks as though it would soar away through the air at any moment. Names of the guests may be written on these little cardboard aeroplanes so that they may act as place cards. Pine cones make charming decorations for the Christmas dinner table. Keep this in mind and gather a lot of pine cones next summer. Perhaps you have some now which may be used on the table at Christmas season. Fill a round bowl or basket with white popcorn and bury the basket in a mound of pine cones, surround the pine cones with sprays of ground pine and outside the centerpiece set tiny glass candlesticks with green bayberry tapers.



A Tiny Christmas Tree Place Decoration, and Santa Peeling The Christmas Bell—All Of Crepe Paper.

# CHRISTMAS TABLE NOVELTIES

**T**HERE is so much color in the Christmas favors that it is very easy to make a dinner or supper table look gay and cheerful. What with the flaming red of poinsettia blossoms, the scarlet of holly berries, the sunny red of ribbons and the bonny red coat of Santa Claus who inevitably attends the feast, either as a big Jack Horner or a tiny plate favor, the dining room at Christmas season is a cheery and jolly place indeed. The main trouble is to avoid a superfluity of red—if one's dinner or supper party is to be a dignified and formal affair. Sometimes white and green are used instead and this affect may be made very beautiful. A handsome dinner table for eight people is to be set without a single dash of red, the decoration is all white and green—the white of glistening snow and the green of pines and laurel. In the center of the table will be a big frothy looking snowball, a plentifully filled Jack Horner in disguise. The giant snowball, made of cotton sprinkled well with diamond dust, will rest in a bed of pine branches, also well sprinkled with "snow." Midway between the Jack Horner centerpiece and the ends of the table will be small, twin, Christmas trees, "snow-sprinkled" and holding little gift packages wrapped in white tissue paper. The lighting will be done with white candles in tall glass columns and the plate favors will be little crepe paper trees like the one pictured.

In the same illustration is a new Christmas favor designed to hold small candles or nuts. Santa Claus, in his red coat and cap with a long white beard—is pulling the rope of a Christmas bell. He leans up against a pine branch which is sprinkled with snow.

Chimneys always play an important part in Christmas decorations. One cannot think of Santa apart from his chimney though the modern child who knows little about open fireplaces has an idea that good Saint Nick slips through the window or between the pipes of the steam radiator. Two interesting Christmas chimneys are shown among the pictured plate favors and also a new conceit: Santa conquering the globe and mounted on top with Uncle Sam's flag.

There are Kewpies too—they have invaded the realm of table favors to stay, it seems. The Christmas Kewpies are all dressed up as dainty dollies in soldiers' and nurses' uniforms, as fairies with gauze wings, and just as plain Kewpies with huge saucers of red tulle. Then there are Christmas bells; big white frosted bells to swing from the chandelier or the ceiling, or from canopies of red ribbon or green garlands; little red bells for plate favors and yards of crepe paper printed with bells that you can almost hear ring, so vivacious they look.

Crepe paper garlands look very well along the wall and make splendid Christmas decoration for a dining room or a room where a dance is to be held, but it is better to use on the table a plain, handsome cloth of white linen damask which will set off the silver and china, and make a pleasant surface to rest the hand upon than the crinkly paper. And though paper napkins are all very well for parties and motor boats, no housekeeper who possesses fine linen napkins likes to offer the paper substitutes to her guests. In the best homes, as they say: "It is not done." And now that table linens are again obtainable there seems no need to do it. Neither should paper wreaths be

put in the windows. The real holiday wreaths are not expensive and they seem to convey a more sincere idea of Christmas good will and good cheer



Two Jolly Christmas Chimneys That Hold Salted Nuts And Santa Upholding Old Glory On Top Of The World.

than flimsy paper greens hung against the window pane.

One hostess has a new idea for individual favors on the Christmas dinner table. She has been saving and collecting the small wooden boxes used to safeguard articles sent by mail. Opticians mail out eyeglasses, sent to them for repair work, in these little wooden cartons. Bottles containing liquids are often mailed in small wooden boxes by manufacturers. Chemists and sometimes small articles of jewelry come similarly protected

interesting Christmas boxes contain souvenir gifts, for the guests and each gift is wrapped in tissue and then packed in excelsior. The box lids may be prised open easily, for the tiny brands will not hold very fast in the soft wood, but it will be a wise hostess who provides sharp pointed instruments for prying off the box-lids—crochet hooks, pen-knives or strong, sharp nail-picks will answer. Or it may be some impatient, youthful guest, keen to investigate the contents of such an intriguing Christmas box, will see how

the times of a silver table fork will "do."

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A Tiny Christmas Tree Place Decoration, and Santa Peeling The Christmas Bell—All Of Crepe Paper.

House Frock of Linen in a Graceful Sailor Model

### INEXPENSIVE NURSERY HANGINGS.

**E**VEN cretonnes cost a good deal these days and enough yards of bright cretonnes to curtain the windows of a room and supply bed and dresser covers will amount to a discouraging sum of money. So the Little Mother put her wits to work to evolve some fresh and attractive hangings for her small laddie's sleeping room out of "almost nothing at all." And she did it. That is, the nursery was fixed all over, fresh and new, at only a trifling expense. The woodwork she painted herself—with ivory tinted white paint. Out of unbleached muslin she made the window curtains and valances, the crib-cover, table-cover and bureau-spread. Narrow blue cotton gimp at seven cents a yard was stitched on all the hems, about an inch from the edge; three inches in the case of the crib cover. Then blue bunnies were cut out of a yard of bunny-patterned cretonne, which was quite expensive stuff, though the single yard did not amount to very much. These gay blue bunnies were appliqued to the unbleached muslin, above the blue-gimp trimming bands, and the edges were buttonholed down with blue worsted. Several bunnies were left over at the end and out of more unbleached muslin and a small wooden rack for drying clothes, a handy screen was concocted. This was just high enough to keep a direct draught from an open window from blowing on the crib at night, and also made a cozy corner for the radiator when the wee laddie had his morning bath.

### A LOVABLE DOG AMONG CHRISTMAS TOY ANIMALS

**T**HE funny monkey has succeeded in the appealing Teddy Bear as a nursery companion, but with this Christmas season comes along another play fellow who is likely to supersede both in childish affection. He is an adorable collic, about puppy size and has the really truly golden sable color of a prize collic. That is, his coat is in the reddish orange which is known in kennel-vernacular as "sable" and he has white markings here and there, and takes pride in the long, pointed collic nose and beautiful feathery collic tail. Any nursery might be proud to own this splendid fellow as one of its pets and undoubtedly the new stuffed collic dog will be a bed-time companion in many a crib.