

Variations of the Tunic Line



With a Panier Line



Lapped at the Back and Front



Covering the Front Only



Straight and Pleated



The Russian Tunic

THE tunic has been too great a friend of the winter gown, and has decorated costumes too successfully, to be relegated to the oblivion of a style that has gone. It is not surprising to find that the idea is emphasized on spring costumes, and there is hope for every woman in the fact that the tunic line can be drawn anywhere, so infinite is the variety.

There is a suggestion of the tunic at the front only in the linen model, with its attractive transparent bodice. Here the front edge is curved upward, dropping in a straight line to the edge of the skirt. Coarse braid in an irregular design defines the outline and forms the broad side decoration.

The Russian tunic, belted and buttoned, is always becoming, crossing over to one side and continuing in a straight line to the hem. This latter, by the way, is not the straight line of the usual model, but is curved up slightly at each side. A broad hem is used to edge this shape.

With a panier line from which all fullness is eliminated, the tunic is fashioned very successfully on the afternoon gown. Over a skirt that is pleated at the lower portion, the tunic is placed and held at the front by buttons. In this instance the long line—for it reaches to the hem at the back—is broken by two rows of silk braid.

To the uninitiated there might be a question as to just where the embroidered tunic laps. A false hem is shown just a little at one side of the front, but the real fastening is at the back. Embroidery is effectively used as trimming.

A pointed shape is suggested for



A Pointed Shape

those who prefer to lengthen the line of the skirt. Here the tunic is long in front and at the back is short and straight, suggesting the lines of an apron. This model is extremely simple and easy of attainment.

Straight and pleated is the last tunic on the evening gown. It is merely a pleated continuation of the bodice, but so soft is the silk that the material has been folded and stitched in girdle form, then dropped in straight lines, and yet the graceful slenderness of the figure is retained. The pleats are held at the bottom by a band of jeweled net.

From these suggestions, the practical woman should plan her spring and summer frocks with successful results. The material and its pattern should be as thoroughly taken into consideration as the figure of the wearer. If plain, there can be added to the tunic an elaborate ornamentation of soutache, hand embroidery or contrasting hems of other material.

If the pattern of the material be a check, a stripe or one of the popular figured silks that have invaded the realm of dress, then it were well to trim the tunic with a plain band of silk or cloth, or with the wide-stitched hem.

The line of the tunic should be long or pointed at the front, if the appearance need lengthening; the fortunate tall woman can indulge in the shorter tunics, some of which are suggestive of deep yokes. Discretion in this case is the better part of fashion.

A well-planned tunic is half of the costume this season. The ancient men and women would gasp at the changes that have been wrought in this important part of our dress. To the variation of the line is due the effective and becoming costume for any hour of the day.