



HINTS FOR THE HOME WOMAN.



THE SMALL GIRL'S WINTER OUTFIT *By Mary Eleanor O'Donnell*



A Simple Model Becoming to Childish Faces

CHILDREN'S clothes are always a fascinating subject, but they seem particularly bewitching just at present in their absolute simplicity and perfect childishness. They look as if they had been designed to meet the ends and aims of thoroughly natural, active children, who get reasonably dirty in their play.

It is now so much the custom to dress small children in tub dresses the year round that mothers recognize little difference between the spring and winter preparations for the child's clothes, aside from underwear and outer garments. Physicians are everywhere attributing the lessening susceptibility of children and women to colds to the unlined dresses and waists and the cutaway necks that are worn. Each winter season sees more summer frocks and blouses worn.

However, pretty wool frocks for small children do appear, and are admirable for some purposes, and as the small girl shoots up to the older schoolgirl the wool frocks for winter wear assume pronounced importance.

This fall there are more pretty little wool frocks for the small girl in evidence than in usually the case, and so attractive are they that they are being picked up quickly. Long ago mothers stopped making their little boys' clothes and turned with relief to the good looking little garments the shops were showing; later the manufacturers turned their attention to the wee girls of the family, and now comparatively little home sewing is done for the small folk of the average family.

Unquestionably a little frock may be achieved much cheaper at home than an equally good frock can be bought ready made, provided the mother does the sewing herself. One can be absolutely sure, too, of the material used, whether it is shirazak or not, and can have it made up more carefully; but it is doubtful whether the home made frock will have the air that the little bought frock has, and if the mother's time and strength have value or an outside seamstress must be employed the home sewing is perhaps rather expensive in the end.

The manufacturers employ the best designers they can get, and if you do not always get honest work in the ready made garment, you do get effectiveness and a release from the bother and labor if you are willing to pay fairly good prices.

The shepherd plaids in black and white and blue and white, softened by a bit of color are always good, and when properly handled have a delightfully whimsical and simple air. Some good models in this material have little belts of real patent leather, and the accompanying scarf of these dresses, which are nearly always made up in the Russian or sailor effect, are either black or red.

All kinds of plaids are good for children's wear this season, particularly the plaids of green and blue colorings, usually trimmed in bands of silk or in braid. The soutache or the broad braids are used. Piping of silk are also used in both the plain and the bias bands of striped or plaid silks.

Little Russian frocks of corduroy and velveteen are made up plainly with collars of embroidered linen or silk. However, the more practical dresses for the small girl are those made of tub materials, stout, heavy cottons and linens for rough wear, and dainty white muslin for the dress occasion. Pique is the smartest of the heavy cottons, but it is usually too expensive, so galatea and kindred cottons are much more popular with practical mothers.

The tendency to use rough fabrics for outer garments is noticeable. Chevots, camel's hair effect, shiblenis, and plaid back fabrics are all in demand. In children's dresses there is more of a tendency to fancy weaves in materials than is true of grownups. Plaids, checks, and fancy mixtures are everywhere represented in dresses for every day wear; they are not only becoming but they are more serviceable, as they do not show the soil so quickly as the plainer materials.

The kimono or raglan sleeve are style characteristics that are popular in both coats and dresses. As the sleeves in most of the dresses are only elbow length they are finished, as a general rule, with under-sleeves in lingerie of the same material as the little gowns.

In suits for the young girls box effects are noted among the high class suits. Many believe that they will take better with young girls than with women, being more suitable for immature figures than for women who are inclined towards the embonpoint.

Another style feature which is noticeable on many of the French garments is also being copied on chil-



An Attractive Knitted Set in White Wool



Dress Hat of Dark Brown Velvet Trimmings of Red Velvet Ribbons and Tiny Pink Roses and Leaves.



Picturesque Model in Velvet, Fur, Lace and Ribbon Trimmings



Grey Chinchilla Coat with Black Velvet Collar

ren's garments. This is the use of trimming on the edge of the jacket. Sometimes this is in the form of a band going around the edge of the coat. Occasionally it consists of embroidery or trimming on the front, back, and sides. In fact, the styles this season are particularly suitable for slim, graceful figures, and are so youthful in appearance that everybody interested is well pleased with them.

The majority of the coats are cut to give the long, slender line, with little or no flare around the bottom. They are nearly all full length and are made with the large sailor or the round collar. Many shield effects are seen, and a number of the coats are made so that they may be worn either open or closed, according to the weather.

Fur trimmings are much in favor on all coats. All the fashionable furs, including Australian opossum, skunk, ermine, fox, Persian caracul, seal plush, ledger, and molekin are used. Quite a feature, too, is made of the buttons, which frequently match the trimmings or are of some fancy metallic effect which blends with the costume.

The most marked characteristics of the winter hats for the small girls and their plainness of shape and trimming. They are not severe in effect or hard to wear. Most of the shapes for practical wear are in felt or beaver. The mushroom shape is perhaps the dominant one. This style sets well down on the head and has the brim fitting rather closely around it. It is one of the newer styles. The wider mushroom shapes are fully represented, too. For dress wear there are unusually picturesque models in velvet, fur, lace, and flowers.

In the baby's wardrobe, if the mother is sensible, as she is quite sure to be, baby will have no frills and furbelows on her clothes this winter. Simplicity is the fashion of the day, and baby's clothes reflect the trend of the fashion of the day. Generally speaking, the distinction between baby's every day clothes and the dresses for best wear is merely in the quality of the fabric. When baby is expected to look her finest her dress is of the sheers of nainsook, lawn, or long cloth, and sometimes washable cotton chifon.

Hints to the Slender.

HORIZONTAL lines are the corrective for extreme height and slenderness. Square yokes, ornamental cuffs and belts, trimming that runs around the shirt, all help to diminish the size. Vertical lines are trying to a slight figure unless lengthwise tucks and plaits are used, which, extending to the shoulders, give width to the chest surface, but fullness gained by gathers and shirings is softer and adds breadth without incurring the stiffness of the up-and-down lines. Diagonal folds may, of course, be employed, only they should not be flat, but soft and in the nature of drapery.

Sleeves for the arms should never be plain nor have any lengthwise trimming. A simulation of a short sleeve by means of transparent cuffs is a good design and almost any use of horizontal lines. When, as is often the case with a tall frame, the neck is long, its exaggerated effect is obliterated by bringing some fairly striking trimming close under the chin. If, however, this same ornamentation is carried far down on the chest its purpose is defeated, it must serve either as a shallow yoke or as a band from shoulder to shoulder.

In designing a gown with prominent horizontal lines one must be careful not to divide the figure into "stories." A general impression of unity must be preserved and no gown that has a cut-up effect is well planned.

A frock must not be shapeless. With material at will one can build out the figure to any size or shape and with grotesque results; to be successful in treating the slight figure one must keep a sense of proportion and maintain the right relations of one part of the body to another. And one must not forget either to keep in graceful outline the contour of the figure, which is almost more of an art in building out a figure than in treating one where nature curves, while ample at least serve as a basis and inspiration.

To the slender who would be otherwise: Do away with dark colors and flat surfaces. Learn to manage fullness without clumsiness; cultivate a sense for beauty of line and beauty of motion and stand straight if you would look smart in the trying styles of this season!