

BUYMANSHIP GUIDELINES

The purpose is to learn to look for clothing quality, comfort, style and looks at the best price.

- It is equally important for boys and girls.
- It can be geared to any age level.
- It is particularly nice for non-sewers.
- It is an art-but anyone can learn it, and the sooner you do, the more you save.

PROJECT EXHIBITS

1. Jewelry and shoes, scarves, etc., are the "finishing touches" of accessories and can make a lot of difference in the total look of the outfit, so should be chosen and added carefully. This should not be counted in the number of pieces of the outfit in any of the categories.
 2. Cost cards are informative, not a criteria for judging. They need to be included and exhibited. They help the member to realize the amount spent and the observer to form a realistic idea of the budget involved.
 3. Project members are encouraged to participate in the Style Show. A selected garment would be modeled.
 4. Presentation
 - a. Be able to explain to the judge(s) your choices, combinations and uses.
 - b. Do you know number of outfits or variations you can achieve?
 - c. Arrange orderly display (such as casual to dressy).
 - d. Have accessories to show combinations not being worn.
 - e. Pictures to show combinations not being worn might be a help.
 - f. Costs - know what you spent, what you saved, and value of what you included from wardrobe (a chart might help).
 - g. The exhibit needs to be neat, clean, pressed - i.e. ready for display.
 5. Fair Classes

Class I - Begin with one or two articles from the member's wardrobe, then add at least two purchases of clothing to create a co-ordinated outfit.
 6. Class II - The complete renewed outfit. Should use no more than two new purchases, plus one other article of clothing. This should be restyled; additional articles of clothing should come from your wardrobe.
- If possible, include a "before" picture of the restyled garment and describe what was done.
- a. Restyling needs to be more than just turning up or letting down a hem or pair of cuffs, even though this does make a difference in the fit.
 - b. To shorten a floor length skirt into street length or shorten long pants into shorts or knickers might be all right for simple restyling.

7. Class III - The educational display, study, theme or charts. Thought and effort comparable to that put into the other two classes is needed.

Some suggestions for possible exhibit ideas are listed (these could easily be developed into demonstrations!):

- a study of fashion extremes and how they effect other things - like furniture.
- quality and basics versus contemporary fashions and fads.
- natural fibers versus synthetics
- principle of heat retention in clothing
- how to make good use of sales and bargains
- can thrift shops be to your advantage?
- co-ordination and buying to complement yourself

MEETING AND ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

1. Learn to look for quality at the best prices.
2. Shop for the most value and use. Know your wardrobe and needs. Watch for bargains.
3. Learn to read labels for care instructions. Does it fit your lifestyle?
4. Learn to use basics.
5. Learn to make purchases to complement what you already have in your wardrobe.
6. Learn how to expand and stretch a wardrobe.
7. Learn how to examine your own wardrobe and what to do with it.
8. Can alterations be made (adding a ruffle or trim), change a color, change a collar or neckline, change a length.
9. What styles look best on your, what lengths, what lines, what colors.
10. Learn to do comparison shopping and clothing evaluation.
11. Learn to use resources like catalogs, fashion and home magazines.
12. Learn to do creative and imaginative restoring and recycling of older garments.
13. Learn good grooming and accessorizing.