

Home Demonstration News

Homemade Items Can Have That 'Professional' Look

By FLOY G. GARNER Home Agent

Spring is in the air! It is everywhere, and inevitably, with the coming of spring, usually heralded by Easter, the thoughts of the most of us, women, particularly, turn to clothes.

Many of us will be doing a lot of home sewing . . . making everything from the "Sunday Best" dress to the simple, comfortable, often shapeless housecoat we wear for the family breakfast.

In fact, more and more women and girls are turning to their sewing machines for their solution to the clothes problem, whether it be for economy, or that they just don't happen to like anything they can find ready-made.

You may be one of those people who have never made a garment before, or you may be a "veteran" seamstress. But regardless of which category you happen to fit in, you do want your home sewing to have a professional look. Home sewing can and should have a professional look.



Floy G. Garner

underestimate the importance of "grain", and don't get too hurried and "scissors-happy" before you have taken care of this detail.

Another important detail in dressmaking that so many people are often careless about is the marking of darts, notches, seam allowances, etc., as outlined on the pattern. These should be marked on wrong sides before removing pattern from the fabric.

For greatest speed, use a tracing wheel, dressmaker's carbon and ruler. If tracing wheel is not available, marking with carbon may be done by using a thin blunt-edged instrument, such as the handle end of a thin all-metal nail file. Dark carbon is not recommended. Mark two layers of cloth, wrong sides together, by placing two pieces of carbon paper back to back between cloth, then trace on pattern markings.

Or, with printed patterns and right sides of cloth together, pin along lines to be marked. Push heads of pins through the tissue and remove pattern. With tailor's chalk or colored marking pencil, mark over pins on top layer without removing pins or under layer.

Or, use tailor's chalk with a ruler to mark through perforated patterns. Pin chalked line and mark pin line on under layer. For speed and accuracy in marking center front, center back, and sleeve girth lines, first crease lines lightly with a warm iron. Mark crease with hand basting or machine basting.

The difference between a professional and a homemade look often depends on the correct and skillful use of a few basic rules and suggestions. To make your sewing problems easier and to give you a guide to good workmanship and that professional look, apply the following "red letter" hints to your home sewing: "Plan Your Garments to a 'T'". Consider type, cost, color, pattern and fabric.

Determine the type garment you need for the planned occasion. Family clothing budget should also be considered in planning the cost. In choosing color, consider the clothes on hand; your individual coloring; your likes, present-day fashions.

When you select your pattern, consider the style best suited to you and the occasion, and be sure that your choice of fabric is suited to the pattern. In selecting pattern and fabric, remember your ability to sew.

If you are now in the sewing game, it is wise to select a simple pattern and material for your first new garments. Planning the right fabric and pattern makes up two-thirds of the value of any garment.

When you have selected pattern and fabric, and are ready to begin making your garment, all you need are a few pointers to achieve that finished, professional appearance that you like in a dress or other garment. But, that this appearance cannot be achieved, nor any facsimile of it, no matter how experienced you are in sewing if you neglect details as you go along.

If speed is of more importance than the final appearance and fit of the garment, that is your choice, but usually, if we rush through the cutting and construction of our garment, we neglect some small but important details, and we do not achieve what we had hoped for.

One of the first things we should learn about sewing is the importance of "grain". The person who sews must know that the grain makes the fabric that makes the garment. We should learn that grain—the lengthwise (warp) and crosswise (fill) threads or yarns woven together at right angles—makes fabric.

The garment pieces must be cut on the correct grain, and the grain must be kept in correct position during construction so that the finished garment will be "grain perfect".

When fabric is torn, it will be on the crosswise thread. However, fabric may be cut straight and still not be on the grain. Before fabric pieces for a garment are cut, the lengthwise threads and selvages must be parallel and at right angles to the crosswise threads. Therefore, before cutting garment pieces, straighten cut end of material by clipping selvages.

Then, tear if it does not affect weave. Pull a thread or two so that the fabric may be cut on the exact crosswise thread. If the fabric thus prepared does not form right angles, when placed flat or folded, pull the short ends.

If pulling does not correct this, press or dampen and press the fabric so that the grain will form right angles.

Why is the grain of the fabric so important in sewing? Your finished garment will not fit well, hang correctly, look smart nor keep its shape unless cut and sewn on the correct grain. There are no secret formulas nor any methods that can make up for or conceal a badly cut garment.

Therefore, be sure the garment pieces are cut on the exact grain indicated in the patterns.

The fundamental principle of all construction is to make the garment "grain line perfect." Never



News from SOUTH RIVER

April 8—Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Hill and children visited relatives in Atlantic over the weekend. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Pittman of Beaufort visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hardy, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Rone Wallace Jr. and daughter of New Bern spent the weekend with their parents. Chief Harry Hardy and family of Beaufort RFD visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Hardy, Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Hardy were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Carraway, Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Dawson spent last week at Kingston.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Eubanks Jr. and family, formerly of Beaufort, have recently moved to our community.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Wallace of Beaufort visited their parents Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Hardy of New Bern were the weekend guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Levy Hardy.

Mr. Glen King and son, Charles, of Raleigh spent the weekend at their cottage. Miss Kathy Pittman was the overnight guest of Miss Gilda Hardy of Beaufort RFD.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Hardy Jr. visited her parents at Pelletier Sunday afternoon.

If the fabric does not hold stitch marks.

The next column will deal with "staylines" and other details that contribute to the professional touch in sewing.

Dallas Salter, Atlantic, Visits Russian Station

Seattle, Wash.—Dallas E. Salter, engineer third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Salter of Atlantic, returned to Seattle, Wash. April 5, aboard the icebreaker USS Burton Island; after completing "Operation Deepfreeze III" in the Antarctic.

Leaving Seattle last November, the Burton Island proceeded to the Antarctic loaded with supplies for the seven US International Geophysical Year stations, arriving one month later at Wilkes Station.

After unloading, the icebreaker made way to the Russian IGY Mirny Station.

On Jan. 29, over 200 US Navy men, IGY Scientists and news men were joyfully welcomed—the first Americans to visit this main Russian base in Antarctica.

Greeted with sincere hospitality, the men were treated to a dinner and taken on a tour through the laboratories, living facilities and airstrip. Later that evening the Russian personnel boarded the Burton Island for refreshments, a tour of the ship from bow to stern and were shown an American movie.

Scientific information was exchanged between the American and Russian scientists. Coins, pictures and other souvenirs also exchanged hands.

The Russian personnel showed great interest in American magazines and returned to the base with over 400 back dated issues.

Aids Ship After leaving the Russian station the icebreaker was ordered

to the aid of the Japanese ship Soya Maru which was having trouble getting through the heavy ice packs to resupply Showa Base, a Japanese IGY station.

For 17 days the two ships smashed the ice and tried different routes only to be halted by snow and rough seas. The Burton's helicopter flew continuous ice reconnaissance flights under all weather conditions, trying to find a way through the ice to the base. The ships managed finally to maneuver within 50 miles of the station.

Weather Wins The Japanese vessel's seaplane flew inland and picked up the winter-over party and some equipment but weather conditions made the resupplying and landing of new personnel impossible.

A dispatch to the commanding officer of the Burton Island from the Commander of the Naval Supply Forces for Antarctica, read in part, "Your 17-day battle to render assistance in the face of

heavy ice and gale winds is in the best traditions of the U.S. Navy and an example of the spirit of cooperation between nations that is characteristic of the Antarctic IGY program. Well done to all hands and best wishes for a pleasant voyage home."

After escorting the Soya Maru to safe waters and away from the ice packs, making as little as two miles in a 12-hour period, the Burton Island proceeded further westward around the Antarctic continent and freed two Norwegian ships which had been locked in the ice for 30 days, and then set steam for the United States.

The ship visited Valparaiso, Chile; Callao, Peru; and San Diego, Calif., on her way home.

With the arrival of Communist refugees, the population of Hong Kong has advanced from one million (normal) to 2,750,000. Some Communist refugees are sleeping in holes dug in hillsides outside the town.

Rotary Club Hears Prize-Winning Speech Thursday

Ann Herbert, a freshman at Morehead City High School, presented her prize-winning speech, Our Living Constitution, at the Morehead City Rotary Club meeting at the Rex Restaurant last Thursday night.

Ann won first place in Morehead City and third in district competition with the speech, prepared for the American Legion contests. Her mother, Mrs. J. F. Herbert, accompanied her to the Rotary meeting. President-elect Thomas Noe presided at the meeting and introduced the guests. In addition to Mrs. Herbert and Ann were Rotarians Stanley Potter of Beaufort and Virgil Jenkins of Maysville.

H. L. Joslyn acted as song leader and Rotarian Ed Swann played the organ.

Good News About 4-H

By Harry Venters, 4-H Advisor



The second 4-H electric workshop will be held tonight at the Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation building on Bridges Street, Morehead City, at 7:30. The same program will also be held Saturday morning at the Newport PTA Center. I hope all of you that attended the first workshop will be able to continue.

The Smyrna 4-H Clubs will meet Monday morning, Beaufort, Wednesday and Merrimon Community Club, Friday night at 7:30.

With the exception of the above mentioned clubs, we only have one more regular 4-H Club meeting this year. But there will be plenty of opportunities to get together at county and district demonstration day programs, 4-H Club Week in Raleigh the week of July 21-28 and 4-H Camp at the Roanoke Island 4-H Camp at Manteo, Aug. 4-9.

I want as many of you as possible to participate in as many of these activities as possible. It is from these special activities that you learn what 4-H is all about.

I have yet to see a boy or girl come away from any of these programs without setting higher goals to follow another year. There's something about meeting, working and playing with 4-H'ers from other sections of the state that does everybody a lot of good.

Mrs. Garner and I are still looking for girls and boys who want to take part in 4-H demonstration contests, dress revues and public speaking contests. If you want to give a demonstration on some phase of your 4-H project, let us know so that we can help you.

Last year we had only one demonstration winner, Paul Wade from the Smyrna Senior 4-H Club. This year I hope we will have more. Several others came in second in competition and I know they will want to try again.

There should also be some good electrical demonstrations as a result of the 4-H electric workshops being held in our county. Time is growing short so let's get to work right away.

Advertisement for Hamilton Furniture Co. featuring a 'PANTRY DOOR' FREEZER. Text includes: 'Stores 460 lbs. of Food! Save \$100.00 Admiral', 'MODEL 14U90B—13.6 gr. cu. ft.', 'NOW ONLY \$349.95', and 'Hamilton Furniture Co. 505 Live Oak St. Beaufort, N. C.'

Large advertisement for Belk's 9 Hour SALE. Text includes: 'COME AND GET IT! 9 Hour SALE to 6 P.M. Prices Cheaper Than Stealing Saturday, April 12th Only'. Lists various items like 'EARLY BIRD SPECIALS', 'Men's Dress Shirts', 'Ladies' Gowns', etc. with prices and values.