

**According To Dorothy Pearson**

# There Aren't Any New Hairstyles This Season?

By Jalyne Strong  
Post Staff Writer

What are the new hairstyles this season? You'll be surprised to find there aren't any. The hair designs women are wearing this year cannot be categorized. We have entered the most individualized era of hair fashions ever.

According to Dorothy Pearson, "There is not one hairstyle that is 'the' hairstyle today. There are trends," she notes, referring to feathering, layering, asymmetrical cuts, shags, blunt cuts, bobs and finger waving. And the best hairstylists are currently employing several aspects of these techniques to give each individual woman a special look that has above all versatility. Pat hairstyles are passe while distinctiveness has taken their place.

An award-winning hairstylist from Somerset, New Jersey, Pearson's experience has kept her abreast of the latest in hairstyling and its essential component, hair care. She has won both third and second place honors in two Curl-Free Curl competitions in New York, including winning a medal of excellence from the Soft-Sheen products competition.

In this enlightened age of hair fashion, Pearson advises that women not seek a hairstyle just because it is trendy. "A woman's hairstyle must fit her facial structure, hair texture, personality and position," she claims. "A good cosmetologist will offer each client a private consultation to determine these factors before deciding upon a hairstyle."

The oval shaped face is the ideal and any hairstyle a woman wears should give the illusion of this facial shape, maintains Pearson. "Some women are born with this type of face but many aren't," she states. "The hairstylist's responsibility is styling the hair in such a way to give any woman this look." Squared jaws, low foreheads, puffy cheeks all can be camouflaged by the right hairstyle and this should be the priority concern of the hairstylist.

"It's all in the cut and shaping," says Pearson, emphasizing that the cosmetic qualities of a hairstyle are only effective if the hairstyle also fits the person's personality and position. A woman must be able to live comfortable with her hair and this is only possible if she can easily manage her style on her own. "For example," says Pearson, "a lady who



**Dorothy Pearson**  
...Award-winning Hairstylist

works in a factory does not need an elaborate hairstyle, it will only become a problem." The best hair-

style will be one that can move with a person through all their daily activities.

Adds Pearson, "Yet, this same lady may spend her weekends going out to events where she'll enjoy a fancier look." This is where versatility comes in. "A good hairstyle should have changeability, allowing it to be dressed up or down depending upon the occasion," confirms Pearson.

No one can have a good hairstyle if they don't pay attention to hair care. Pearson is adamant about this fact, stating, "It all goes back to basics. I recommend a lot of conditioning, and manipulation of the scalp through fingertip massaging and brushing." Pearson's knowledge in this area is extensive. She even goes on to explain why these activities are important, speaking technically about the structure of hair.

Once the basics are taken care of, women can

look forward to innovations in hairstyling. Pearson's excited about the elaborate colors used now on black hair such as plums, fuschias and reds. "These colors can be mixed to match the person's complexion," she states. Then she cautions, "But it's important that the individual goes to a salon for any chemical processes done to the hair."

Another look Pearson promotes is finger-waving, a style that has made a stunning comeback since its heyday in the 1920's and 1930's. "It is a temporary means of putting waves in hair with fingers, setting lotion and a comb," she explains. "This style requires a lot of creativity on the part of the hairstylist because it is more patternized than any hairstyle." There are many variations of waves including vertical, beehive, pen-

cil waves, shadow waves and more. The finished look, says Pearson, is elegance. "This style can dress up any woman," she claims.

But finger waves, as any style, have to be designed to fit the individual's face, personality and position. So, if you're looking for a new hairstyle, don't be swayed or influenced by fads. Seek a hairstyle that will bring out your own best qualities. "Know what it takes to be beautiful and you can be just that," concludes Pearson.

Pearson and her daughter, Nakia, nine, are newcomers to Charlotte. Currently awaiting the arrival of her cosmetology license for North Carolina, Pearson is anticipating working for a salon in Charlotte.

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