

Simplicity is the key to cruisewear fashion, whether you're going on the most ornate or the simplest cruise. For any of your travels, the tiered dress (below) that changes to a full-length gown, is just the look for evening. For versatile looks on and off the ship, the gauze, hand-embroidered blouse and slacks (right) and the full-bodied shirt and dirndl skirt (below left) fit the bill.



Story: SUSAN TAUBER KLEIN  
Staff photos: DOUG BAUMAN

Picture yourself on a cruise. Whether you dream of being aboard the Queen Elizabeth II or the Nordic Prince, a certain mood prevails—romance.

"There's a special way of dressing for cruises that's different than dressing for town," said Janet Varner, owner and buyer for Janet Varner's. "There's a whole feeling for cruise clothes."

Cruisewear should be carefully selected.

Select items that are packable, washable, and versatile, whether your style is tailored or unconstructed.

## Add romance to wardrobe

# Cruise clothes travel

ala mode

What you take also depends on where you're going, how long you're staying, said Ms. Varner.

"Take separates," advised Ms. Varner. "I try to help people find pieces that go easily from day to evening."

A CRUISE wardrobe can include a variety of items. Dimid skirts, colored paprika, indigo blue or soft peasant prints, can be worn with oversize blouses with capped sleeves or with T-shirts. Jeans can also be part of your on-board wardrobe, said Ms. Varner, adding that the jeans should be 16 inches wide and ankle-length.

"The look for a cruise is bareness, without many accessories. But a woman also has to wear what she feels comfortable in. What she wears is a matter of personal taste. If she looks better in a shorter length skirt than the mid-calf length, then that's what she should wear," said Ms. Varner.

Fitting the cruisewear requirements is a thin cotton gauze ensemble. Straight-legged pants or a draw string skirt team up with a hand-embroidered slip-on top. Pull on the pants and top, add a flower to your hair, bare your feet and the ensemble will suit your needs on and off the ship. Change to the skirt for a romantic look.

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—Janet Varner

For evening Ms. Varner suggested taking cocktail-length dresses and bias-cut skirts. A four-tiered dress that can be worn floor-length or cocktail length is ideal for a cruise, said Ms. Varner. The bottom tier is detachable and can be worn as a full-length skirt.

TOP OFF any outfit with a long scarf wrapped around your shoulders. As important as looking good and being comfortable on the cruise is what you wear to the ship. You want to look your best then also.

For your departure, Ms. Varner suggests wearing a polyester-rayon blend skirt and blazer. The fabric won't wrinkle and it looks like linen. A natural color suit by Norman Todd has matching slacks and is very tailored. The unconstructed blazer is lined only in the sleeves, making it easier to put on over a full blouse.

"There's a budget way to shop for a cruise, too," said Ms. Varner. "We, and other stores, have summer things from last year on sale now that customers can buy."

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## Where It's At

By JUDY SOLOMON



### Lend an ear

Candy is dandy, especially when it's 14-karat gold. (It's non-fattening and so much more valuable.) If you're feeling flush, these gold clip candy earrings from Jules R. Schubot would make a sensational Valentine's Day gift. Two styles are available. The round swirls are designed to look just like chocolate-covered cherries. The rectangular step earrings look like chocolate covered caramels. Priced at \$225 per pair, the packaging is clever too. The earrings sit in brown candy papers in petite gold and white striped boxes. Jules R. Schubot Jewellers, Suite 112, 3001 Big Beaver West, Troy, 649-1122.



### A case in point

On Valentine's Day, here's a nice way to get your point across. It's a white pillow case (\$12), especially decorated for the occasion. The words, "I love you" appear in red three times followed by little red hearts. Towards the edge of the pillow case, there is a band of red fabric printed with white hearts and trimmed with white eyelet. Bloomies also has adorable heart-shaped sachets made out of red and white polka-dotted fabric, satin ribbon and lace (\$5 each). Bloomies, 222 E. Maple, Birmingham, 644-8870.



### All dolled up

Any little girl (or, for that matter, any sentimental big girl) should be thrilled to receive one of these lovable old-fashioned dolls (\$9.95) on Feb. 14. Featuring brown yarn bangs and a long yarn braid tied with a bow, each doll sports a full length gown topped with a pinafore apron and holds a nosegay of flowers in her hands. The gowns are made out of red and white gingham checks or red and white dotted swiss and the pinafore aprons are made out of red cotton or white pique plus lace, eyelet or rickrack trim. Rolling Stone, 3274 Franklin Road, Franklin, 626-3879.



### Undercurrent

If you suspect your beau might give you one of the Scentuous Sachets mentioned in last week's column, here's an equivalent gift for him. The Princeton Shop has jockey briefs and boxer shorts especially for Valentine's Day. Printed with red hearts, brown monkeys and the saying "Let's monkey around" over and over, the briefs are priced at \$3.50 each. The shorts (\$5) come packaged with a red plastic wind-up heart bearing the words "My heart beats for you." For the slightly more conservative, the shop sells red terry cloth socks (\$2.25 per pair) embroidered with white hearts. Princeton Shop, 6645 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 851-3660.



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