

Poly-blend fashions bring you the best of both worlds

By LORRAINE McCLISH

Poly-blend fabrics that have the look and feel of a real silk or a real cotton keep getting better every season, to give spring shoppers the best of two worlds.

"Women like the natural look of cotton, but don't want anything they have to iron. They want comfort. They like the feel of real silk. And all of the new synthetics are filling all of those requirements."

The quote comes from Claire Kelly, of Claire Kelly Fashions, who puts together three or four fashion shows a week for benefit fundraisers out of her two shops; one in Plymouth and one in Northville.

In addition to that, her clothes are seen in informal modeling sessions at noon Fridays in Farrington's Clam Diggers and every Wednesday in Plymouth's Hilton.

A great many of the clothes she's showing now have a modified peasant

look to them with loose blouses, tiered skirts, string ties or cowl necks.

"THEY'RE NOT as extreme as when they first came out," she said, "they're more wearable, more versatile."

She continued by saying that about 90 per cent of her new clothes this year know no season.

"Not only are they good for any time of the year, many are good for any time of the day," she said while holding up a short cocktail dress that looked as though it were a print chiffon.

"This is suitable for lunch, dinner, cocktails, or evening wear, and I try to buy clothes that have many uses."

And because so many women are doing so much more traveling now, the poly-blends are packable and versatile.

Scarves still are fashionable, to be worn around the neck, the head, the shoulder, or wrapped around one's

fanny, while pantsuits have ceased to be a way of life.

WOMEN WENT back to wearing skirts, timidly, Ms. Kelly said.

"Women started buying skirts to wear with the separates they already had. Often they would remark that the skirt had to be shortened and I would ask them to just try it the way it was."

"Wear it a few times as it was just to get used to it. It took a while, but dresses and skirts are now selling in much greater numbers than pantsuits."

"Those who buy pantsuits now are those who have jobs that make pants more practical," she said.

Another trend she sees is the contin-

uing diminishing call for matronly clothes.

"The matron is no longer dressing like one," Ms. Kelly says. "The elderly woman more often than not is buying the same kinds of clothes as her granddaughter."

"I have a lot of fashionable customers, but I think I do a lot to make them that way," she said.

This week, Ms. Kelly is outfitting members of the Livonia Women's Club and Yettes for their Bouquet of Spring Fashions fundraiser set for 7:30 p.m. March 3 in St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Livonia.

Her shops are located at 141 E. Cady in Northville, and at 470 Forest in Plymouth.



Comfort with the natural look combines mix and match separates. The khaki and navy plaid blouse is worn with either khaki or navy jeans.



All sleek lines and sensational looks...our envelope clutch. To tuck under your arm or catch from its wrist strap. In palomino, medium brown or luggage leather with a golden lock. \$36. By Miss Jane of Norvich. Handbag Collections.

Saks Fifth Avenue

Saks Fifth Avenue, Troy, Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge, open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays until 9 PM

Where It's At

By JUDY SOLOMON

Salud

It takes a lot more than a weekly game of tennis or a yearly checkup to keep in shape. That's why a visit to Healthy Jones might be just what the doctor ordered. The attractive new shop has a little bit of everything pertaining to health, including a restaurant that seats 30. Besides such things as cookbooks, cooking equipment, jogging clothes, a full line of health food groceries, frozen foods and vitamins, Healthy Jones has exclusives on two items, Benita Karol makeup and Willner vitamins. According to owner Joan Wittenberg, Willner's are the purest vitamins you can buy.

Healthy Jones, 29185 Northwestern, Southfield, 353-7766.

A la tart

If you collect candles, you'll find it hard to resist adding one or more of these to your collection. They'd also make clever centerpieces for your next luncheon or dinner party. Imported from France, the tiny petit fours candles are \$1.95; the four-inch diameter tarts are \$4.25 and the 11-inch diameter pie candles are \$20. Each has a fluted wax crust plus your choice of fruit fillings ranging from apple, pineapple, raspberry, cherry and peach to combinations thereof.

Orthogonality, 135 S. Woodward, Birmingham, 642-1460.

Cover story

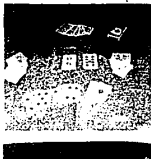
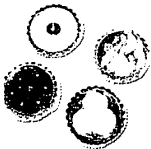
For the games people play, be it bridge, gin rummy, Rummy or what have you, these card table covers are a lovely thing to have. Made from an ultrasuede-like fabric called "Moccasin," each 45 by 45 inch cover is machine washable, can be dried in the dryer and then pressed with a steam iron. Available in sophisticated colors such as hunter's green, rust, beige, burgundy, navy and grey, each cover features a double-faced grosgrain ribbon border. Priced at \$43, orders take three to four weeks.

Barbara's Paper Bag, 135 Pierce, Birmingham, 642-3860.

Brushing up

A bleak and boring winter day is the perfect time to brush up on yourself. This darling bamboo basket (\$16) contains five bamboo-handled brushes for lips, cheeks and eyes. It would be a fine addition to your dressing table as well as a great way to keep makeup tools in one accessible place. Incidentally, Marlene's Faces is the only place in the area where you can find Madeleine Mono makeup. Be sure to check out the Mono oval eye pencil that contains three different colors within one pencil point, as well as the Mono Arabian Lights, Kohl pencils and Indian Eyes.

Marlene's Faces, 6575 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 851-0480.



fashion calendar

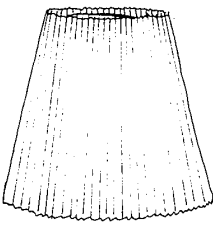
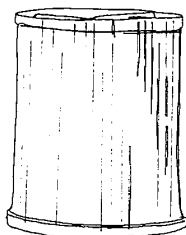
Monday, Feb. 27

Kasper visits Fairlane Town Center —Designer Kasper will bring a collection of designer fashions for spring and summer, which he will personally introduce during a musical extravaganza that also includes fashions from other California and New York designers. The live musical production will be performed at 2:30 and 7 p.m. and will mark the second anniversary of the center. Three-time Coty Award winner Kasper will introduce five new pieces from his collection.

Wednesday, March 1
Roda at Himelech's —Original needlepoint fashions created by designer Roda will be introduced at Himelech's Birmingham between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Roda designed a rug for the Cranbrook educational complex. Newest designs include belts and clutch handbags utilizing 18 mesh canvas patterns.

Harriet Selwyn comes to Lakeside —Designer Harriet Selwyn will visit Lakeside, Sterling Heights, with a collection of fashions for spring and summer. A recipient of the Lord and Taylor Creative Design Award, her collection includes clothes to be worn separately or intermixed with basic Fragments components. Show will also include 15 fashions from other New York and California designers. Performances at 2 and 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Court.

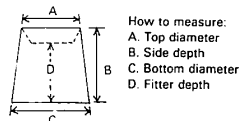
Hand-tailored lampshades in just the shapes and sizes to fit your favorite lamp



Our Lampshade Shop has a wide and varied selection of lampshades for you to choose from. In such fashionable fabrics as crepe, antique satin, linen, shantung and taffeta. In color selections from white to egg-shell and natural tones.

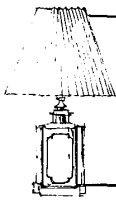
Shown at top: Drum shade in egg-shell antique satin. 16" diameter, \$30.

Below: Box-pleated "Empire" shade in egg-shell color crepe. 18" diameter, \$38.



How to measure:
A. Top diameter
B. Side depth
C. Bottom diameter
D. Fitter depth

For professional assistance in selecting your lampshade, come meet Mr. Jeff Kovacs of the Edward Alden Studios. Just bring your lamp base, and Mr. Kovacs will assist you in selecting the proper size and shape lampshade.
Thursday, March 2 from 1 to 9 P.M.



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