

Essentially fashionable

In the 1700s there was hardly a need for a good jumpsuit, and women's wearing walking shorts certainly would have set our founding fathers on their heels.

But, even then, American women sniffed out the laiest European fashions. Letters home were laden with questions regarding dress and attire: Southern belles ordered; and waited a year for gowns from Europe, as Northern Judies scoured New York docks A looking for ships loaded with Europe's latest

If there is comfort in looking back, it's noting that the good old days were not frustration free either. A wardrobe essential in 1720 meant one good dress that would last for years.

The problem then was too little fashion. · Today, women are confronted with too'

Be it technology, increased leisure time or perhaps larger closets, fashion choices are endless. Because our lives have vastly changed from the days of milking cows and sewing circles, our clothing needs have expanded. Consequently, a big "s" must be added to the once singular word "essential," and surviyal in the fashion world now defor him or her with an ability to sort out looks, styles, fabrics and price tags to fit the individual.

The key to success in spring '76 is carefully choosing wardrobe pieces upon which you can build. A closet containing neutral colors and classic styles is easily updated with new accessories and one or two basic garments. If you've never had that kind of wardrober this is a good time to start.

The following list, compiled by Saks Fifth Avenue Fashion coordinator Brenda Rose nhery, outlines some of the best looks that will still be around after the season passes.

JUMPSUTTS-These are plentiful, and for good reason. Dress them up or down with shirts, T shirts, jewelry and shoes.

Consider the fabric and how much wear ind tear it can take. A silk jumpsuit might be terrific for evening, but it won't go to the office; a nice cotton poplin jumpsuit can go just about anywhere.

However, it shouldn't go anywhere if the wearer has huge hips and a bad body. Don't think you have to be rail thin to wear a jumpsuit, though. A person with some shape (Continued on page 13)

Dimple Elegance from our fabulous Spring and Summer Collections

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