



Light blue is spring-perfect for a brushed denim raincoat and matching hat by Margaret Rubel.

FLOWERS

When you think spring, think in glorious Technicolor. Move beyond yellow, orange or lavender.

Think marigolds, lilacs, tulips and magnolias. Then, try to combine your colors like nature does hers—one shade running into another in wild abandon splashing colors on a neutral setting.

Just as in nature, 1977 neutrals are the foundation for spring's parade.

Although green isn't quite neutral, it is a basic this year—something Mother Nature figured out long ago. Coordinates in lively, bright, kelly green are easy to find and flattering to wear. Sometimes they are sold as a single unit—pants, skirt, jacket and vest—and sometimes as separates to combine with patterns that have some of the vibrant kelly in them.

Black and white are once again important—they can fly by themselves or with a dash of color.

Other popular neutrals, the building blocks of a well put together wardrobe, are soft beige, off-white and the tans that run toward khaki.

The neutrals show up in double breasted blazers, vests and split skirts as well as traditional suits. Split skirts (last year's culottes) have a long, slim line. They're ready and waiting for a marigold, lilac or daffodil accent.

Split skirts are quickly becoming a way of life. They're sophisticated enough to wear in the city and versatile enough for picnics, fence rail sitting or brook hopping on a country walk.

Until the hot weather hits, split skirts and fashion boots are a great combo. After that, rope sole shoes are a proper mate for the split.

The chiffon revival is going full tilt. This fabric, which has a nice way of caressing the wearer, takes to color and flower



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