



Split skirts are one of the hottest new items to hit the stores this fall. If you don't want to be left out of the trend, be sure to mix and match fabrics by texture. The woman on the left, clad in a BearWear for Juniors outfit, sports a corduroy-plumed jacket with a flange on the shoulder, with a silk blouse and embroidered thick hose. On the right, the woman wears an Evan-Picone for Juniors outfit where she teams a wool split skirt in earth tones with a tweed jacket of the same colors. Her perforated leather wedge shoe adds another texture dimension. From Saks Fifth Avenue.

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"Culottes were fitted across the tummy. And gauchos looked like short pants. Split skirts are divided, but have box pleats that are soft and unpressed, sometimes on a yoke. When you're wearing them they look like skirts, not shorter pants," Ms. Bower explained.

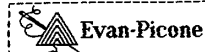
LOW-HEELED boots and demi-wedge pumps are terrific

footworks to match with split pants, knickers, wool and corduroy pants. Other popular roving shoes have coned-shaped heels, with slightly squared off toes rather than the pointed version that was popular last year.

Colors are muted, in the autumn earth tones but with bright flashes and accents that give a deliberate unmatched feeling. — Suzie Rollins Singer

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