

Patterns mix, match

# Monotone: the 'in' look for fall

By LINDA TAYLOR

All the "fall color" this year won't be on trees.

With layering, mixing and matching and accessories continuing to be key concepts in fashion, adventures in color will make dressing fun.

That's what was promised as shoppers at Somerset Mall Thursday (Aug. 14) were shown some tricks to stretching their wardrobe as Models Affiliates and Don Thomas Sportsaus staged a "Glamorous Encounter."

Well-known phrases in fashion will be repeated this fall. Scarves continue to tie color combinations, new tops and layering make wardrobes work double-duty and classic clothes and colors take the limelight.

Fall colors hover in monotones with few bright spots. Mauve, greens, rusts, greys, camel and the old standby, black, carry through the one-color look. The colors go adventuring in patterns: combinations of tweeds worn with stripes and polka dots or shock in interaction—mauve shirt with green skirt tied by a scarf sporting both colors.

Wear two different patterns that complement each other. Suggested Linda Hack, model and co-commentator. That means geometries, no cute little flowers. Wear stripes and polka dots for example. The message is to be adventurous. She said to look for three-piece suits—shirt, jacket and matching pants—and buy all three pieces. "You'll be sorry later if you don't," added Barbara McIntosh.

SHOPPERS WERE also advised to "cruise" a store, noting possible mixes and matches in different departments, before trying on anything.

Buy a scarf first and build on it. Ms. McIntosh suggested "Connect a brown and grey ensemble via a scarf. That's how you jump from one color scheme to another."

Camel and grey monotone wardrobes, for example, can be bridged by a scarf incorporating camel, grey and black. Start with a classic all-camel ensemble mixing geometric patterns in skirt, sweater, shirt and scarf. It's a look in itself.

Replace the skirt with grey slacks and the shirt with one in camel, grey and pastel pink. Another look. You emphasize the pink more by replacing the shirt with a print one in-



Commentator Linda Hack points to detail in print blouse, which coordinates with monotone slack outfit worn by model.

cluding mauve. Wear a coordinating scarf and voila, a third look.

"Make what you have work for you," repeated Mrs. Hack. "It's not necessary to spend a fortune to liven up your wardrobe."

As suggested in a previous glamour clinic series at the mall, a list of what is in your closet is a starting point. "List what you have," said Ms. McIntosh. "Then, when you buy something, make it add to what you have. There is some talent to mixing and matching, so search until you find what you want."

Exact color matches aren't essential when dealing with more than one color in an outfit. For navy or grey, with their hard-to-match shades, switch to a lighter blue jacket or a pale grey sweater instead of trying to match exactly.

FALL COLORS shown all seem to mix and match well, with a coordinating touch such as a scarf. Space green and camel or green and navy look rich. Lots of prints and stripes in blouses and scarves tie the colors together beautifully.

Summer's tee-shirt look becomes a part of fall layering. Long or short sleeve tee-shirts or sweaters will be seen over the many fall print blouses. And summer's big look, if bought in

seasonless colors, can stretch into fall by wearing it over a turtleneck. "Dig out those mufflers, hats and scarves," Mrs. Hack advised. "And build a wardrobe to wear under a specific coat." A camel trench coat worn over mauve and camel separates evoked a total look.

"Check the color of the lining of your coat," she added. Match it with separates and let the lining show as you carry it inside for a designer costume look. "Figure out what you can buy to make it look like it all came together," Ms. McIntosh said.

As for skirt length, most clothes shown fell just below the knee. "A graceful look." Fuller skirts look better, longer. But the fall look is a together one: length, right colors together, fun to wear.



Audience accepts classic pantsuit in camel and white plaid.

a la mode



Staff photos by Tracy Baker

Members of same group seem awed by mixing same-color stripes, diagonals and polka-dots in one outfit.



Model sports casual wear in two shades of the same color, with matching hat, while commentator Barbara McIntosh goes for other separates to coordinate with the slacks.

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