

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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ADULT
CLOTHING DEMONSTRATION

Second Year
Demonstration No. 2

Remodeling

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Demonstration showing possible uses of old garments. Garments to be furnished by women.

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REMODELING

To keep the family well dressed on the average income is a problem that often perplexes the mother. In order to cut the cost of the wardrobe to the minimum it is necessary to think seriously of clothing needs and of the amount of money to be spent, to select material carefully as to its value and appropriateness, to keep accounts, to repair, to remodel, and to care for clothing properly.

Garments should be selected that are conservative in style, that have good lines and can be used several seasons without remodeling. But at best it will often be advisable to re-cut or remodel garments of good material so as to conserve textile fabrics and reduce cost of clothing.

Plan the wardrobe for the family and after determining the clothing needs it is advisable to look over the garments that are no longer usable in their present form.

WHEN AND WHAT TO REMODEL

In deciding whether or not to remake a garment keep in mind the following points: (1) the need for the contemplated garment; (2) the value of the usable part of the old garment; and (3) the cost in time and energy required to convert the old garment into a new one. The value of the time required to remodel the garment should be carefully calculated. It is not advisable to spend as much time, money and energy in making a garment from old material as would be required for a similar garment of new material. Used material cannot be expected to last as long as the same quality new. It requires more time and thought to make a garment from a garment than from new material. However, remodeling makes use of material that would otherwise be wasted and saves money for other new material.

Remodeling should be done only when there is a need for the garment that can be constructed from garments that are no longer usable in their present condition. Remodeling is not an economy when the material is too badly worn to give long enough service to repay for the time required for remaking. Unless the remodeled garment is needed, is attractive and has wearing quality it does not represent an economical use of time.

The size and shape of the parts of the old garment in relation to the pieces for the new are also factors to be considered in determining the advisability of remodeling.

When old garments are not needed to remodel into garments for the family it is often worth while to put them into a usable form for some family unable to purchase clothing.

Time may be saved by planning the new garment before ripping the old one and if the parts for the new permit, the seams may be cut off instead of ripped.

Cleaning and renovating of the old garment is usually necessary. This may include one or more of the following processes: removal of stains, washing, dry cleaning, dyeing, sponging, pressing. (See Demonstration No. 1, Renovation).

In planning the use of the old garment consider the possibilities of re-

cutting into a smaller garment and of the combination with other material either old or new.

COMBINATION OF MATERIALS

In combining materials consider the color, design, texture and quality. It is almost impossible to find new material that will match the old exactly, and for that reason it is advisable to combine two old garments or to buy a cheaper grade of some new material that will harmonize with the old. Wool may be combined with either silk or wool. Cotton and linen may be combined with either cotton or linen with good results when there is a variation in texture or design. The trimming is important and should be inexpensive and appropriate. Bias binding, collars and vests may be cut from old garments. New trimming may make the material appear old.

In combining fabrics for a garment, texture and design are important considerations. The texture should be such that the materials enhance each other either by contrast or likeness. Satin and serge enhance each other by contrast of texture, and satin and velvet by likeness or similarity. A great contrast of quality, as a cheap quality of one material with an expensive quality of another gives an unsatisfactory combination. Materials should be of approximately equal durability; avoid such combinations as georgette and serge.

Patterned materials should not be combined. It is also a mistake to decorate a patterned material with embroidery, lace or any figured trimming. When buying patterned material, it must be remembered that the design of the fabric is its own decoration and that the garment should be made with rather plain lines and no trimming.

In combining material the patchy effect produced by many points of decoration should be avoided. There should be one center of interest with not more than two other points accented.

SELECTION OF PATTERN

The choice of the pattern for the remodeled garment is very important for it must conform to the shape and size of the parts of the old garment. If piecing must be done, it can be concealed by the use of trimmings, such as braids, bindings, tucks, embroidery, buttons, folds or applied hems. Select the pattern that will necessitate as little piecing as possible and will provide means of hiding the piecings.

The entire pattern should be placed on the material before any one piece is cut. The straight edge of the pattern should be placed on the straight of the material.

The dress form may prove a valuable aid in designing a remodeled garment as the lines may be determined by pinning the pieces together on the form.

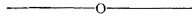
PREPARATION OF GARMENTS

1. Ripping.—Do not rip seams until you are sure you will need the pieces. When ripping take out all threads so that needle holes will disappear in the further preparation of the material.

2. Cleaning.—The kind of material will determine the **method most** suitable for cleaning. It may be dry cleaning, washing with soap and water or the use of a commercial dry cleaner.

3. Dyeing.—If dyeing is necessary it can be done by a dyer or at home (see Dyeing in Renovation of Clothing, Demonstration 1).

4. Pressing.—The material should be pressed on the side that is to be the wrong side when remade.



SUGGESTIONS FOR MADE-OVER GARMENTS

The following suggestions may be helpful in deciding the use of an old garment:

Boys' suits or trousers may be made from men's suits, trousers, overcoats or from women's suits, coats or dresses.

Aprons, children's dresses, rompers and wash suits may be made from shirts, wash dresses and skirts.

Boys' or girls' heavy coats may be made from an overcoat or from a woman's heavy coat or suit.

Woolen dresses for girls may be cut from a larger woolen dress, skirt or coat.

Costume slips and petticoats may be made from silk dresses.

Muslin and knit underwear may be recut into smaller under garments.

Sweaters may be raveled and reknit, the machine made ones may be cut down for children.

Shirts may be cut into boys' blouses, children's dresses and aprons, women's blouses or work aprons or laundry bags.

Skirts may be combined with new or old material for dresses or may be made into children's skirts, dresses or coats.

The coat suit may be made into a one-piece dress, coat or dress for a child or into a boy's suit.

An old waist may be used for collar and cuff set, camisole, top for undergarment, trimming or for handkerchiefs.

Sheets that are beginning to wear will give longer service if split through the center and the selvage edges sewed togethr. If badly worn they may be made into sheets for smaller beds or kept to use as draw sheets in case of illness. These may also be kept for ironing board covers.

Table cloths that are worn in the folds may be cut down into lunch cloths and napkins.

Turkish towels may be cut down into wash cloths.

Worn sheets, pillow cases and parts of muslin underwear after sterilization may be torn into strips and rolled for bandages.

Old hose may be used for sleeve protectors while doing heavy work; for shining shoes, for dusting and for mops.