1973

EC73-490 Menswear : Criteria for Fit

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A jacket, a pair of pants or a shirt should fit well to give maximum comfort, appearance and wearing qualities. Well fitted clothing enhances a man's appearance, though it is not always easy to attain.

Being familiar with various aspects of good fit will help in making selections. Look at a person's front, back, sides and small details as the individual stands. Check the fit as he bends, sits or reaches. You can then find any problem areas and correct them.

A WELL FITTED JACKET (Fig. 1)

1. Sleeve is comfortably but not overly full.
2. Jacket hangs straight at the front closing with no strain on the buttonholes when buttoned.
3. It does not bag as if too loose or bind as if too tight when buttoned.
4. Jacket hangs smoothly from shoulder to hem with no unsightly wrinkles or bulges.
5. Hem appears parallel to the floor all the way around.
6. Sleeves are ¼" - ½" above the wristbone. If a long sleeved shirt is worn, the cuff should be ¼" to ½" longer than the jacket sleeve.

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12. Lapels roll flatly against the garment. The V-line made by the lapels holds close to the chest.
13. Jacket is wide enough through shoulders and chest so that movement is easy.
14. Jacket shoulder line is firm and unbroken from neck edge to shoulder tip. Padding is not obvious.

7. Armholes fit easily and arms can be raised without noticeably lifting the whole coat.
8. Jacket is only slightly shaped at waist.
9. Jacket is long enough to cover the seat of the trousers.
10. Collar sets about ½” below the shirt collar.
11. Collar sets close to the neck. There should be no wrinkles or gaps.
SHIRT (Fig. 2)

1. Collar hugs neck and does not gap or strangle.
2. Shirt collar raises about ½” above jacket neckline when a jacket is worn.
3. Shoulder seam ends at the tip of the shoulder.
4. Armholes are roomy enough to allow for action, yet not so loose they bag.
5. Body is comfortably eased and not baggy or tight. Shaping through the waist is slight.
6. Shirt tail is long enough to stay tucked in.
7. Sleeve length ends just below the wrist bone. Shirt sleeve cuffs show about ½” below the jacket sleeve hem.

Pants (Fig. 2)

8. Waistline has ease but no extra fullness. The waistline should fit easily at the natural waistline. Many men and boys, however, prefer to wear their pants waistline a bit below their natural one.
9. Pant crotch does not bind. No wrinkles draw below the seat or against the front of the legs when standing.
10. Pant hangs straight in front and back with creases following the straight of grain at the center of the pant.
11. Pant hem edge breaks at the instep.
12. Pant seat has ease but no bagginess.