

# PROPER FIT FOR A GARMENT

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**N**othing is more important in being attractively and comfortably dressed than having properly fitted clothes. A well-fitted garment is neither too tight nor too loose. It conforms to the figure and has adequate ease for body movement; its lines are not strained or changed by the body.

A wrinkle is an indication that the garment is either too long, too wide, too short, or too narrow. Wrinkles, however, should not be confused with folds that are a part of the design.

Fashion also plays a part in the way the garment fits. The amount of ease or the control of fullness changes with current styles.

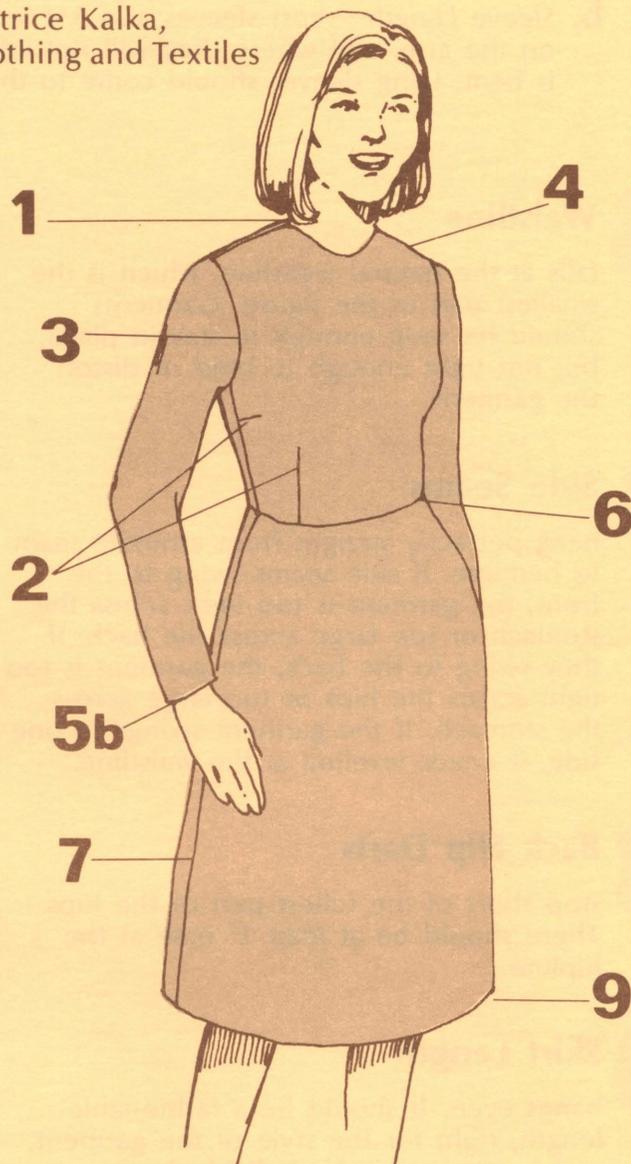
When you try on a garment, check the following points for a comfortable and attractive fit:

## 1 Neckline

fits snugly around the base of the neck, but not tight enough to be uncomfortable, nor loose enough to gap. This is important on low as well as high necklines. Collars should lie flat and smooth or stand properly as designed.

## 2 Bodice Darts

stop short (about 1/2" to 1") of the point of the bust and the bulge of the shoulder blade. Darts on the side of the garment should be in line with the crown of the bust and also stop short. There should be about 4" ease in the garment at the bustline.



## 3 Armhole

falls where the arm breaks from the body at back and front, and right on the outer edge of the socket bone at the shoulder.

## 4 Shoulder Seam

falls exactly on top of shoulder 1" behind the lobe of the ear. It cannot be seen from the front or back when shoulder is at eye level.

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## 5 Sleeves

should be full enough to allow movement without binding. The grainline should run straight across the arm at the top of the sleeve.

- a. *Elbow Darts or Gathers*—for comfort when bending the arm, the center of the ease allowed should hit where the elbow bends. This would be the middle dart if there were 3 darts, or halfway between 2 darts, or gathers.
- b. *Sleeve Length*—short sleeves and 3/4 length sleeves should hit where they are becoming on the arm, and where they will not add width to the bust and hiplines when the elbow is bent. Long sleeves should come to the point where the hand and wrist meet.

## 6 Waistline

falls at the natural waistline, which is the smallest part of the figure. Garments should be snug enough to stay in place, but not tight enough to bind or distort the garment.

## 7 Side Seams

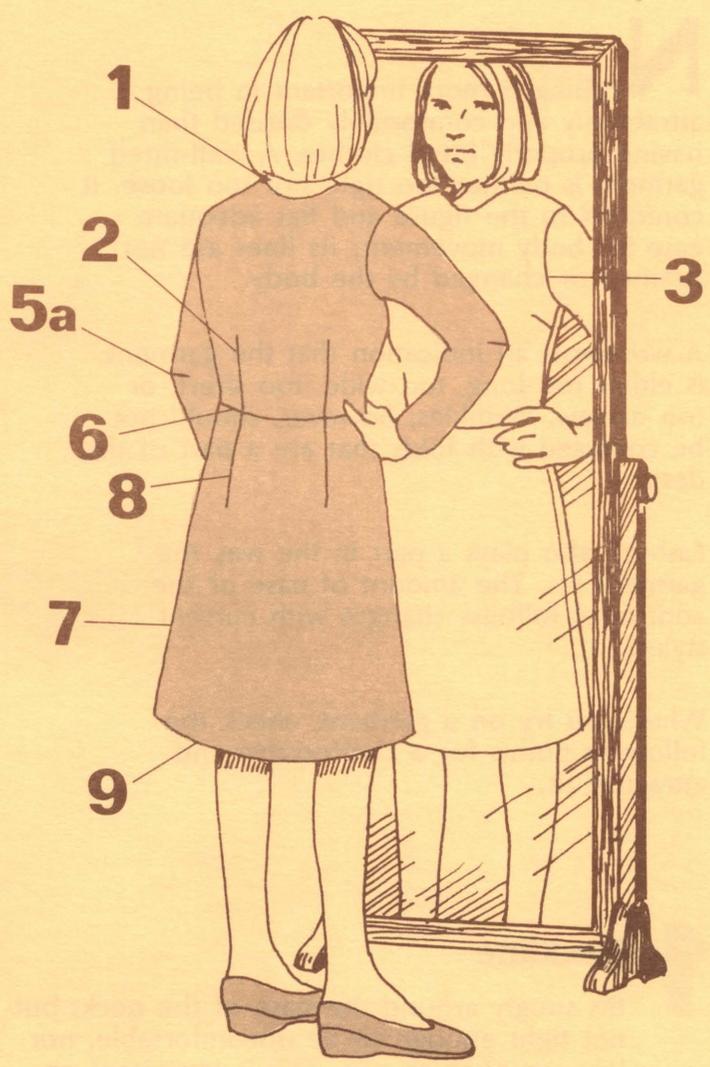
hang perfectly straight from armhole seam to hemline. If side seams swing to the front, the garment is too tight across the stomach or too large across the back. If they swing to the back, the garment is too tight across the hips or too large across the stomach. If the garment swings to one side, it needs leveling at the waistline.

## 8 Back Hip Darts

stop short of the fullest part of the hips. There should be at least 2" ease at the hipline.

## 9 Skirt Length

hangs even. It should be a fashionable length, right for the style of the garment, and becoming to the individual.



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