

4-H Clothing Selection

by Nadine Hackler

NAME _____
CLUB _____
BIRTHDATE _____
YEARS IN PROJECT _____
YEARS IN 4-H _____



Level I

Dear 4-Her:

Welcome to the 4-H Clothing Selection Project. It has been designed around the theme, "How I Want to Look." Do you know how you would like to look?

As you read and work through the pages of this booklet, you will discover information on the effects of line, color, and texture. You will see how the use of these three design elements influences your appearance.

Only you can decide how you want to look. Before looking at the next page, describe on paper how you want to look. The 4-H Clothing Selection Project can teach you how to achieve that desired look. From your study you will become more aware of how to use line, color, and texture in clothing to create YOUR look.

The activities of the project have been planned to emphasize the effects of the three design elements and to "train your eye."

Have fun!

Sincerely,



Nadine Hackler
Professor in Home Economics
Extension Clothing Specialist

4-H Clothing Selection: Level 1

Line

Line is the most basic element of design and therefore the most important. It is the boundary of things. For purposes of this project that boundary is **YOU**. Lines are used to

- Divide areas into shapes, forms, and spaces.
- Provide direction.
- Provide movement.

Types of Lines

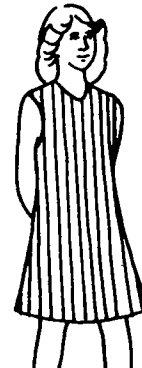
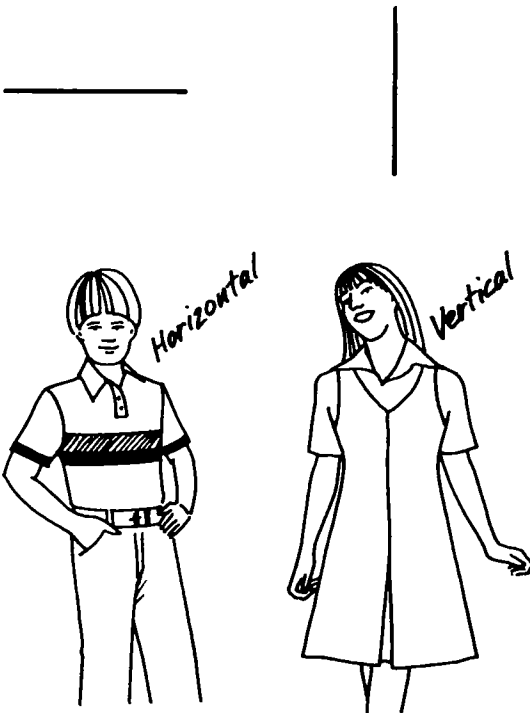
The two types of lines are (1) straight and (2) curved. Straight lines are forceful. Curved lines are softer and give a more graceful feeling. Both types of lines give direction, either horizontal, vertical, diagonal, or curved.



Some effects of straight and curved lines are as follows:

Vertical Lines —

- Direct the eye up and down.
- Add height.
- Create an impression of poise and strength.



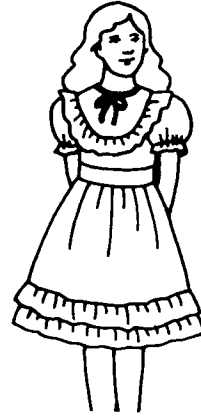
Horizontal Lines —

- Lead the eye across the garment.
- Add width.
- Suggest calmness, serenity, and gentleness.



Circular (rococo) Curves—

- Convey excitement.
- Have a greater degree of roundness.



Diagonal Lines—

- Express action.
- Create a vertical or horizontal effect determined by how great the angle is.

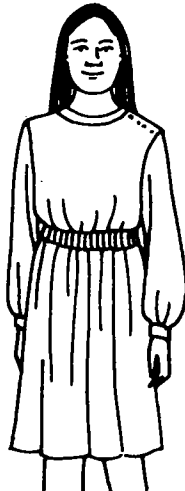


The spacing of lines can change their expected effect. For example, as the space between vertical lines is increased, the illusion of height is decreased.



Restrained Curves —

- Give a feminine feeling.
- Have a slight degree of roundness.



Also, as the space between horizontal lines is increased, the illusion of width is decreased.



Project Requirements: Line

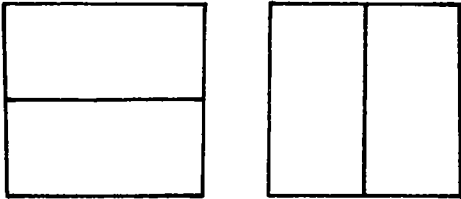
To successfully complete this section of Level 1, do the following:

- Complete activity 1 or 2.
- Complete activity 3.

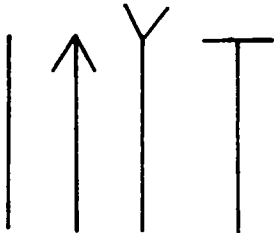
Activity 1: Lines Give Optical Illusions

Answer each of the following questions. Briefly explain your choice.

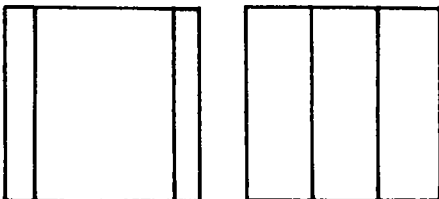
1. Do these squares appear to be the same size? Explain.



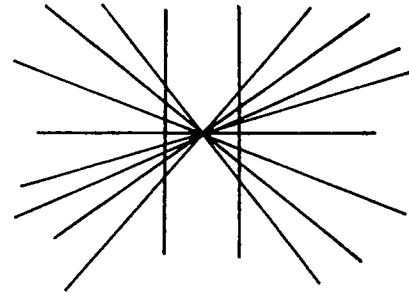
2. Which line appears to be the shortest? The tallest? Why?



3. Which line would make you look thinner? Heavier? Why?



4. Are the two lines straight? Explain.



Activity 2: Different Lines

Draw examples of horizontal, vertical, diagonal, and curved lines. Use felt tip pens of different widths, pencil, and brush with watercolor or poster paints. Describe the appearance of each line, such as thick, thin, dainty, or bold.

Activity 3: The Four Lines

1. Find eight examples of each of the four lines — horizontal, vertical, diagonal, and curved. Use pictures from magazines, newspaper ads, or catalogs.
2. Mount the examples on plain paper.
3. Describe the lines you see.
4. Explain the following effects of these lines on the figure:
 1. Thinner
 2. Heavier
 3. Taller
 4. Shorter

Remember that lines can be seen as:

Seamlines
Darts
Necklines
Collars
Belts
Pleats
Tucks
Gathers
Cuffs
Bows
Buttons
Contrasting Colors

Color

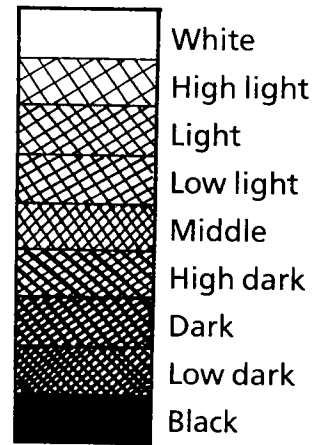
Color is fascinating. Can you imagine clothing in just white, black, or gray? Of course not! Everyone likes color and usually has a favorite one.

Color plays an important role in wardrobe planning and selection. It is usually the first design element that people notice. The colors you select to wear contribute to your attractiveness. A becoming color will help you to feel and look your best.

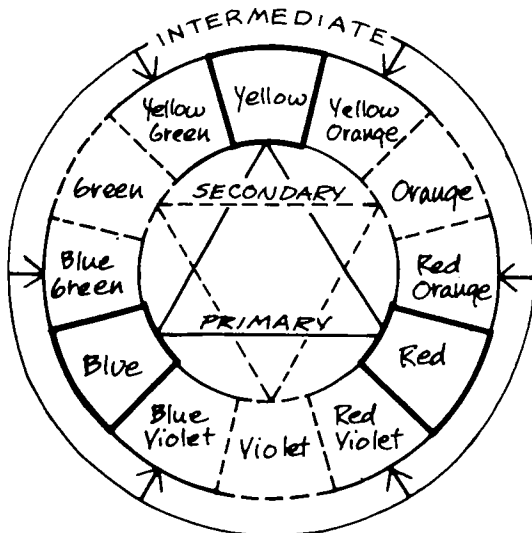


In learning the language of color you will need to understand color "qualities":

- **Hue** — the name of the color.
- **Value** — the lightness and darkness of the color.

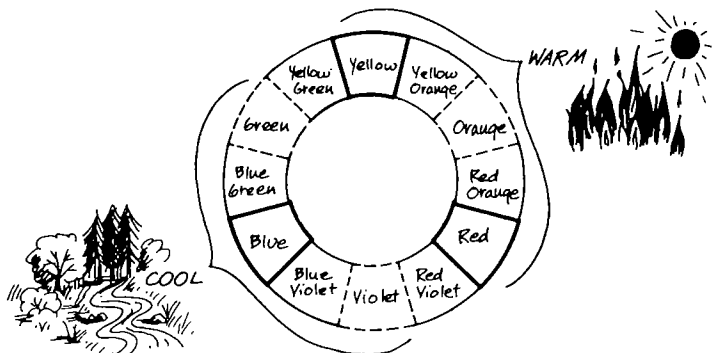


All colors come from the three primary colors — red, yellow, and blue. Mixing two primary colors will give you the three secondary colors — green, orange, or purple. Taking this one step further, mixing a primary with its neighboring secondary color will produce an intermediate color, such as red-orange. If more orange than red is used, the color is known as orange-red.



- **Intensity** — the brightness or dullness of the color.

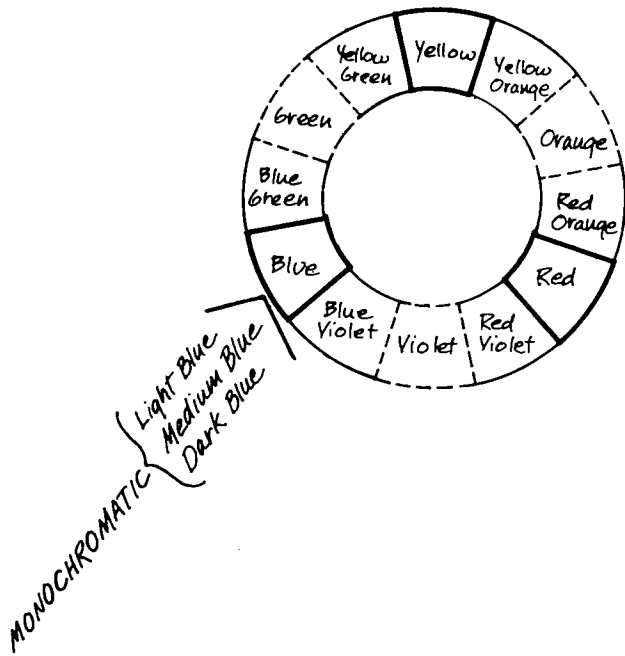
Another characteristic of color is that it may be warm or cool. **Warm colors** are red, orange, and yellow. These remind you of fire and heat. **Cool colors** are blue, green, and purple. They remind you of shadows, water, and trees. Warm colors and cool colors are opposite each other on the color wheel.



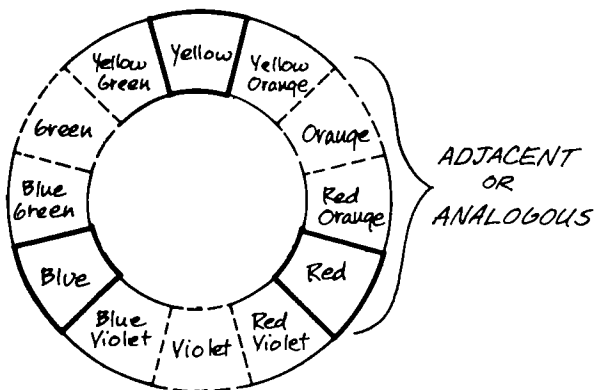
Color Schemes

Arrangement of colors is another way to create an effect. Arrangements are known as color schemes and are as follows:

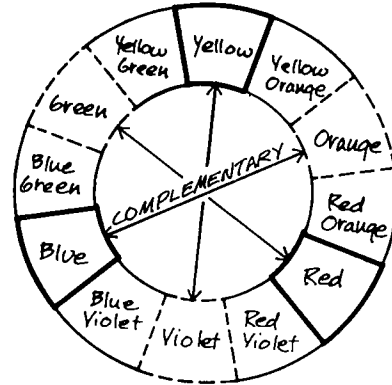
- **Monochromatic color scheme** — This is an arrangement of one color in varying values and intensities, such as blue, dull blue, light blue, and dark blue.



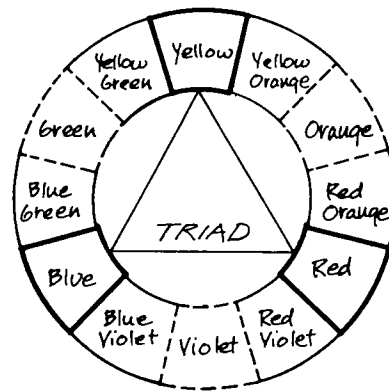
- **Adjacent Or Analogous color scheme** — This is an arrangement of colors found next to each other on the color wheel, such as red, red-orange, and yellow.



- **Complementary color scheme** — This is an arrangement of colors found opposite each other on the color wheel, such as orange and blue.



- **Triad color scheme** — This is an arrangement of colors that form a triangle on the color wheel, such as red, yellow, and blue.



What is meant by the question, "Do these colors match?" You are very concerned with whether the colors look good together. If you are looking at two blues similar in color, ask yourself whether they are the same or whether they give a pleasing appearance. It is virtually impossible to exactly match a color. Remember to look at the colors from a distance of at least six feet. Too often we look only at colors close to us.

The more you know about color, the more effectively you will be able to use color. Have fun learning about color!

Project Requirements: Color

To successfully complete this section of Level 1, do the following:

- Complete activities 1, 2, and 4.
- Complete activity 3 or 5.

Activity 1: Color Wheel

Make a color wheel with primary and secondary colors, using watercolors, poster paints, felt tip pens, or fabrics.

Activity 2: Color Schemes

Make each of the following using one of the methods listed in Activity 1:

1. Primary colors
2. Secondary colors
3. Monochromatic color scheme
4. Analogous color scheme
5. Complementary color scheme
6. Triad color scheme
7. Warm colors
8. Cool colors

Activity 3: Warm and Cool Colors

Using paint or fabric swatches of five warm and five cool colors, find colors that are pleasing to you.

Mount your selections on paper and describe why they are pleasing to you.

Activity 4: New Colors (Hues)

Use watercolors or poster paints to combine the following new hues:

yellow-red
red-blue
blue-yellow
red-orange
orange-red
blue-green
green-blue
yellow-green
green-yellow
red-purple
blue-purple
yellow-orange
orange-yellow

Experiment with five other combinations. Be sure to label the two colors you used to make the “new” color.

Activity 5: Selecting Clothing and Accessories

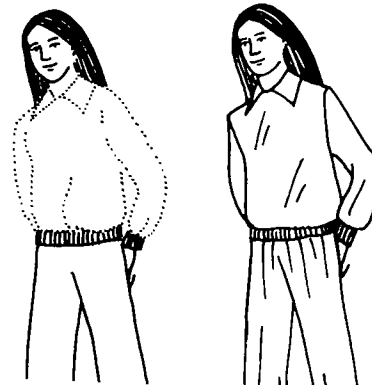
Look through teen fashion or other magazines for ten colored clothing items or accessories. Mount your selections on white paper. For each item, identify the hue, value, and intensity. Then exchange your collection with another 4-H'er and repeat the identification. Did the two of you agree? Discuss.

Texture

Texture refers to the surface characteristic of the fabric. The texture of clothing or accessories contributes to how you look. Learn to use texture to flatter your figure.

Texture can create optical illusions that can make you look —

- larger,
- smaller,
- taller, or
- shorter.



Types of Fabric Texture

Soft or clingy fabrics reveal the figure. They emphasize minor figure irregularities. They are attractive on the well-proportioned individual. Examples are as follows:

- chiffon
- satin (except slipper satin)
- thin silk or rayon
- most tricot knits
- single knits
- batiste
- thin jersey knit
- velvet
- lightweight crepe
- lawn



Bulky or fuzzy fabrics add size to the figure. Very thin and very small individuals are dwarfed by the weight of these fabrics. The tall, slender person can wear bulky fabrics successfully. These fabrics also balance irregular figure features, such as large hips (matté finish fabric) or a small bust (bulky fabric). Examples are as follows:

- bulky knits
- wide wale corduroy
- bouclé
- tapestry
- terry cloth
- quilted fabrics
- angora
- mohair

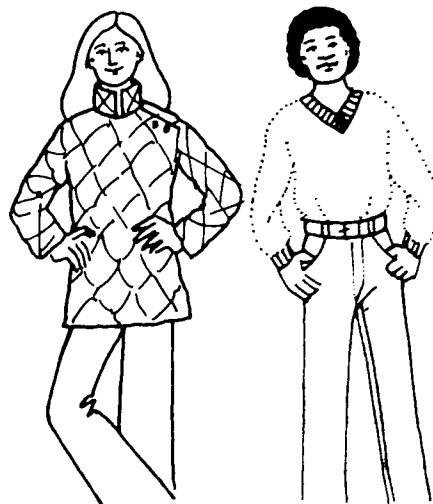
Stiff or crisp fabrics stand away from the body. They hide figure irregularities. Very stiff or crisp fabrics add an illusion of more weight. They also dwarf the small or thin person. Moderately stiff or crisp fabrics are becoming to almost all figure types. Examples are as follows:

Very Stiff or Crisp

- brocade
- tapestry
- leather-like fabrics
- tullé
- plastic
- heavy denims

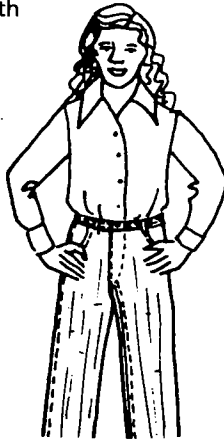
Moderately Stiff or Crisp

- linen
- twill
- durable press fabric
- medium wale corduroy
- some double knits
- denim



Dull or matté finish fabrics absorb light. They usually make a figure look smaller. They are suitable for all figure types. Examples are as follows:

- wool crepe
- gingham
- raw silk
- wool flannel
- cotton suiting
- denim
- chambray
- linen
- wool jersey
- challis
- piqué
- sailcloth
- broadcloth



Coarse or rough fabrics are a good choice for the average to slim figure. Heavy figures look even larger. Petite figures appear lost. Examples are as follows:

- monk's cloth
- hopsacking
- wide-wale corduroy
- heavy tweeds
- bulky knits
- fleece
- mohair
- woolen coatings



Shiny fabrics make the individual appear larger. They call attention to figure irregularities. They emphasize body curves and angles. The average to slim figure can wear them successfully. They create the illusion of a larger person. Examples are as follows:

- plastic
- velvet
- ciré
- patent leather
- satin
- sateen
- polished cotton
- sequins



Smooth (but not shiny) fabrics hide figure irregularities. They are becoming to all figure types. If thick, these fabrics add weight. Examples are as follows:

- serge
- gabardine
- wool jersey
- flannel
- gingham
- percale
- broadcloth
- velveteen
- crepe
- linen
- shantung
- chambray
- challis



Remember to consider texture when selecting clothing and accessories to achieve the desired look.

This publication was produced at a cost of \$598.03, or 60.0 cents per copy, to provide information about line, color, texture, and design when selecting clothing. 11-1M-88

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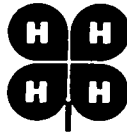
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YEARS IN PROJECT _____

YEARS IN 4-H _____

4-H 392



4-H CLOTHING SELECTION



Level II

Dear 4-H'er:

As you begin Level II of the 4-H Clothing Selection Project you should review what you learned in Level I. Reread the paper you wrote on how you want to look. If you want to make some changes, do so now.

This level is designed for you to learn more about the following:

- How to use lines to create the desired illusion.
- How to create pleasing color harmony.
- How texture affects color.
- The influence of patterned fabric on you.

As you work through the project, continually refer to "How I Want to Look." Look for the line, color, and texture illusions around you in order to "Train the Eye." This will help you in deciding how to create the look you want.

Have fun!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nadine Hackler".

Nadine Hackler
Associate Professor
Extension Clothing
Specialist

