Designing Straight Line One-Piece Creations. Introducing Silhouette Line

The Silhouette Line is the outline of your Model which denotes the Trend of Style. The Shadow Outlines of a Model probably denotes the recreation from a Period. The chic lines of your creation depend upon the silhouette. Simplicity with smartness and exclusiveness of Line and quality pleases those who have good taste.

In designing it is professional first to know your Silhouette line. This is the same as selecting your Block from which you are to make your Model, and add chic lines to carry out new ideas of adornment.

Under the first problem of Chemise Silhouette, we are planning a straight line Model and with a waist-line that is straight and about three inches below normal. The definition of a straight line Model would be that the seam lines would be as straight as possible. Keep your lines simple and do not rudely cut or use plastic form (that is to cover over and lose a good effect in line).

There are cycles in Silhouette Designs that repeat themselves Season after Season. The Chemise or Straight Line is one.

The Chemise Line is the simplest line and yet the hardest to create. After I have obtained my Chemise Silhouette Lines I select a bold design in chintz (this being a good frame line for such a design). Just a little above my Bust-Line and directly on my Body Line I relieve the Model by extending to the hem a panel of plain material (pique), 2½ inches wide. For a relief and still within the laws I have threaded under the straight panel a four-inch (satin-faced) ribbon. At the side loop it over and allow it to hang. This is placed at my Chemise-Waist-Line which is three inches below Normal. I have kept far enough from Center Front to keep a good straight panel front and in the back I did not thread the ribbon through. This keeping an Individuality. Reason correctly and do not work away from the subject.

Chemise Blocks

Take Block (the plain working Block or Draft) and fold the front back from the neck to the waist line, which is ½ of a dart in. Place this on the fold of the paper or material. Measure out two inches (place a Dot) from

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your Chemise Waist-Line. Under the arm measure out One inch, and from that point draw down to the Dot two inches out from Chemise Waist Line and to a point seven inches down from Normal Waist-Line. From that point draw straight down to hem, which on a block should be about 30 inches from the Normal Waist-Line.

Back. Place Chemise Waist-Line on Back Block, and from this straight waist line on side measure out Two inches (place Dot). Do not measure out under the arm in the Back, but from your arm hole draw down through this Two inch Dot to a point seven inches from Normal Waist Line and then straight to the hem, which should be 30 inches from the Normal Waist Line.

This rule applies to any size and block.

Applying Springs for Fullness.

To put in fullness it is done by a term called springing. It is generally the decision of the Designer, as to just how much fullness is desired to carry out his ideas. Common springing of your Blocks is done by dividing the hem line into one-half and dot, then divide each half into a half and dot, thus making three springs—Back and Front the same.

Draw line straight up from these Dots to Chest Line and cut open with scissors. Cut a strip and apply it so that it will spread your draft one inch at the bottom and then taper up to nothing. You may paste in these strips or you may lay your draft upon another piece of paper and open these springs one inch at the bottom, pin down and then cut out fresh block.

Experienced Designers have the Straight Line Blocks made up in a Round-neck, Square-neck, and the Straight-neck.

Sometimes the fullness comes in the skirt and not in the waist portion; then you can divide the Chemise Block at the Chemise Waist Line. This you divide into one-half and then one-half again, making three springs, spring 3⁄4 of the skirt length down with one inch springs. If fullness comes in the Waist spring up with one inch springs to or above Chest Line, by dividing into 1⁄2 on the Chemise Waist Line and then the halves into one-half.

You may spring at any point desired, if flat in front then only spring at the sides. It all depends upon the Model that you have created where the springs go.

Modeling.

To get a straight line neck, take one inch off of the Center Front and put same on fold of material or paper, then pinch in one inch dart in the
middle of your shoulder seam. Then add under the arm one inch more to your Block, then from that point draw down to the Chemise Waist Line.

The change that is made in the Back Block is to place the tip of the shoulder seams together, then draw in the straight neck line, and take the portion off at the top of the seam. Add one inch under the arm as in the front.

Take flat pattern and lay down on your material and where springing cause small ripples press these down and cut straight, should it take length from any line just add that much to it. Never take away where you have added the springing. Leave half inch or three-quarter inch seam when cutting.

Take piece of paper with your thirds properly fixed and proceed to take off Model. If it is a third on the Sketch it becomes an inch on the pattern. Always take from the line of importance that is nearest to.

In diagram this straight neck is one-third down from Line One or Body Line and one half of a third up in front. The panel is placed one inch above the Bust Line as that is the nearest important line. The panel measures one and one-fourth thirds, but as I have stated, doubling panels make this 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches. Put your panel straight and evenly placed on Line One or Body Line to the hem. The Back is done the same on Line One or Body Line, which I have also placed for you on pattern.

Take your ribbon and place 1\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches above your straight or loose waist line and 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches below. Slightly cross your loose waist line between your Line One or Body Line and your seam line and then straighten the front line of ribbon by trimming. Thread underneath your panel. It is 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches from Line One or Body Line toward Center Front. In the Back it just goes under the panel.

It is according to Fashion decree how long your skirt is made from the regulation Block.

To make a one-piece short tight sleeve, put upper and underarm together of Sleeve Block (Back to Back). Measure up from elbow for length, this is 6 thirds.