

## Fit

Fitting rooms are usually equipped with mirrors so that the back and front of the garment being fitted can be seen at the same time. The jacket should look right both buttoned up and unbuttoned. There should be no drag round the armhole seams when the arms are moved. There should be sufficient ease in the skirt so that it does not appear to be tightly stretched across the figure and does not ride up excessively when the wearer sits down.

A suit that requires any more than the simplest of alterations—such as letting down or raising the hem at the bottom of the jacket or skirt, or lengthening or shortening the sleeves—should not be considered. If the waist of the jacket is not in the right place, if the collar bulges, or if the fit of back, bust, or waist is faulty, the suit cannot be altered without destroying the shape and set which have been so carefully built into it in the making.

### Checking the Fit

The suit should be tried on over underclothes similar to those with which it will be worn.

The front, back, and sides should be viewed critically in the mirror, and also the look of the suit as the wearer walks, sits, and moves her arms.

The collar should hold in close to the neck, and the roll of the lapel should hold close to the chest without any bulging or bowing out. The shoulder line should be straight from the neck to the highest point of the sleeve.

The garment must be cut with the grain of the material, as if it is cut off-grain, it will never hang properly. It will twist in wear and this cannot be rectified.

Darts in the jacket should be directed toward the bust.

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The jacket front after the facing has been sewn in →  
place and the lapel rolled back.

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Sleeves should be sufficiently roomy to accommodate whatever is to be worn underneath and should have sufficient ease to allow the elbows to move without constriction. The length of the sleeve should be such that it reaches the wristbone when the arm is bent sufficiently for the lobe of the ear on the same side to be touched. The curve of the lengthwise seam in the jacket should be very slightly below the natural waistline.

The closing should fasten without strain. If the garment is fitted or semi-fitted, the waist fastening should be exactly at the waistline.

The lower edge of the jacket should run straight round the figure at an even distance from the floor all round.

The skirt should allow easy walking and there should be sufficient ease for sitting without the skirt riding up, wrinkling sharply across the front, or cupping under at the back. The waistband should be snug but not tight. The fastening should lie flat and smooth and not be under strain. The skirt should hang straight and the lower edge should be the same distance from the floor all round.

A firmly woven lining material fitted in the back section of the skirt from the waist to below seat level prevents a slim skirt from cupping under at the seat.

## Quality

### Low-grade Suits

Low-grade suits are usually mass produced of less durable and lower quality material than the materials that tailor and press well and are used for high-grade suits. Patterns are placed on a pile of material layer on layer with as much accuracy as possible, but the same attention to detail cannot be given to each pattern piece when numerous thicknesses are cut out at the same time with an electric cutter.

## FIT OF A GOOD SUIT

