

# Woman's Style Guide

## Woman's Fashion

1840 – 1847	
<b>Bodice</b>	Long and tight with fan-shaped gathering; pointed in the front; back fastening.
<b>Neckline</b>	Wide, shallow, horizontal neckline gradually gets narrower.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Long, tight to arm, with tight oversleeve on upper arms.
<b>Accessories</b>	Fingerless gloves; gold watches on a long chain; caps, bonnets; ribbon bracelets.
<b>Hair</b>	Large combs; centre part; close to head; long ringlets.



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1848 – 1852	
<b>Bodice</b>	Long and tight with fan-shaped; pointed in the front; could be padded; back fastening.
<b>Neckline</b>	High stand collar.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Three-quarter or long flaring out towards bottom in bell shape worn over white undersleeve.
<b>Accessories</b>	Fingerless gloves; gold watches on a long chain; caps, bonnets; ribbon bracelets.
<b>Hair</b>	Large combs; centre part; close to head; spreading over ears.



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1853 – 1860	
<b>Bodice</b>	Front fastening (near middle of decade); some buttons; some jacket-style, flare over skirt.
<b>Neckline</b>	Broad collar; narrower collars at the end of period.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Flowing wide at the wrists, worn over white undersleeve; some full sleeves gathered into wristband in less formal dresses.
<b>Skirt</b>	Wider; fuller, gathered or pleated; some flounces; skirt worn over a hoop by end of the decade.
<b>Accessories</b>	Decoration of dress, ornamental hair jewellery.
<b>Hair</b>	Centre part; wide above the ears, then droops over ears.



1860 – 1865
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<b>Bodice</b>	Front buttons; pointed or round waists; military trim
<b>Neckline</b>	High, narrow, round collar, some V necks with lapels
<b>Sleeves</b>	Armhole over shoulder, some gathered into the wrist; some wide bell; some coat sleeves wider at elbow; variety of styles.
<b>Skirt</b>	Full, pleated, some looped up to expose underskirt; worn over hoop.
<b>Accessories</b>	Shawls, hair nets, wide belts; elaborate earrings and brooches.
<b>Hair</b>	Centre part; covers most of ear, plain or braid around; short ringlets.



<b>1866 – 1868</b>	
<b>Bodice</b>	Front buttons; short waist; slightly raised waistline.

<b>Neckline</b>	High with narrow round or pointed collar; lace or ribbon tie.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Armhole over shoulder, narrow coat sleeve.
<b>Skirt</b>	Broad A-line shape over hoop, few pleats in front.
<b>Accessories</b>	Shawls.
<b>Hair</b>	Centre part; pulled tightly back above the ears, piled high in back.



<b>1869 – 1874</b>	
<b>Bodice</b>	Trim such as ruffles; prominent buttons large, not flat.
<b>Neckline</b>	High with low stand collar or V neck with ruffles.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Armhole over shoulder; wider coat sleeves with cuff effects; moderate bell with trim or ruffles.

<b>Skirt</b>	Trimmed apron-like overskirt with bustle over trimmed underskirt; large bustle.
<b>Accessories</b>	Black velvet neck ribbon with brooch or charm; large lockets and crosses; jet beads; earrings and necklace matched.
<b>Hair</b>	Centre part; use of false hair; large hair combs; some hair curled at forehead; long hair streaming down back with hair braided at crown.



<b>1875 – 1877</b>	
<b>Bodice</b>	Often ruffles around neckline and down front.
<b>Neckline</b>	Front opening, low stand collar; or V neck with ruffles.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Sleeves narrower, still cuff trim.
<b>Skirt</b>	Long overskirt effects, bustle less large; trains common.

<b>Accessories</b>	Large button earrings; large hair combs.
<b>Hair</b>	Centre part; frizzed at forehead; braided high at back.



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<b>1878 – 1882</b>	
<b>Bodice</b>	Front buttons; flat, large round or oval buttons; bodice extends over hips.
<b>Neckline</b>	High with low stand collar.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Sleeves narrower.
<b>Skirt</b>	Fell straight from hip to floor.
<b>Accessories</b>	Fans, parasols.
<b>Hair</b>	Centre part; frizzing, low at back.



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1883 – 1889	
<b>Bodice</b>	Fastening obscured; ends at or near natural waist.
<b>Neckline</b>	High neck with moderate stand collar.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Tight to arm in 1890 with kick-up at shoulder becoming fuller each year.
<b>Skirt</b>	Drapery gradually smoothes out to stiff columnar shape.
<b>Accessories</b>	Muffs, jewellery.
<b>Hair</b>	Frizzed around forehead; bun in back





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1890 – 1892	
<b>Bodice</b>	Fastening obscured; ends at or near natural waist.
<b>Neckline</b>	High neck with moderate stand collar.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Tight to arm in 1890 with kick-up at shoulder becoming fuller each year.
<b>Skirt</b>	Drapery gradually smoothes out to stiff columnar shape.
<b>Accessories</b>	Round brooch, small earrings, watch pinned to bosom; large fans, large parasols
<b>Hair</b>	Frizzed around face; bun on top of head



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1893 – 1896	
<b>Bodice</b>	Fastening obscured; ruffles over shoulders; gathers in bodice.
<b>Neckline</b>	High collar to chin with bow at side back.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Ruffles, large balloon “leg-o-mutton” shapes on upper arm; tight below.
<b>Skirt</b>	Smooth at hip front/sides; gradual flare to stiff A-line effect; sometimes trim at the hem.
<b>Accessories</b>	Feather boa, large fans, parasols.
<b>Hair</b>	Frizzed, curled around face, bun in back.



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1897 – 1900	
<b>Bodice</b>	Asymmetrical, horizontal drapery, blouse-like fullness overhangs waist at centre front.
<b>Neckline</b>	High collar to chin, bow at side back of neck.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Decreasing, first small ball-shaped fullness at top, then tight, flaring over hand.
<b>Skirt</b>	Smooth at hips, front/sides; broad A-line becomes slimmer, may flare out below knees.
<b>Accessories</b>	Round brooch, small earrings, watch pinned to bosom; small decorative combs high on back of head visible from front.
<b>Hair</b>	Soft but smoother around face, less frizzing; drawn into back bun.



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1901 – 1903	
<b>Bodice</b>	Pouched front pronounced.
<b>Neckline</b>	High collar to chin.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Fullness increasing year by year on lower arm of above cuff only.
<b>Skirt</b>	Smooth at hip front/sides; flares from knee down.
<b>Hair</b>	Soft but smoother around face, less frizzing; drawn into back bun.



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1904 – 1907	
<b>Bodice</b>	Pouched front continues over wider waistband.
<b>Neckline</b>	High collar to chin; a few collarbone level in summer.
<b>Sleeves</b>	1904: fullness on upper and lower arms; 1905-07: fullness only on upper, sleeves appear to be made in upper and lower sections.
<b>Skirt</b>	Smooth at hips or soft gathers or pleats; generally less slim.
<b>Hair</b>	Gradually gaining width around the face; coiled in back.



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1908 – 1914	
<b>Bodice</b>	Vertical trim effects, small square or round dickey effects; waistline often slightly raised.
<b>Neckline</b>	High collar to chine or round/square to collarbone.
<b>Sleeves</b>	Increasingly tight and plain; some imitate tight lace undersleeves.
<b>Skirt</b>	Increasing slim, straight no gathers, feet show.
<b>Hair</b>	Some centre parts; puffed put wide at sides to support big hats.

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