

# LATEST PARIS FASHIONS

## VELVET, Satin and Cloth Costumes in Varied Coloring.

BY MRS. A. T. ASHMORE.

THE number of street gowns that are required for the winter season by the woman who takes any prominent position in the social world is this season more than ever discouraging to the woman herself, who unless she be possessed of a positive mania for clothes hates to spend so much time at her dressmaker's. But Fashion demands a variety of dress and her demands must be complied with, and at this time of year when it might have been thought the clothes question was virtually settled as many orders are being given for the additional street gowns as though the season were not yet begun. The velvet costume, so marked a feature of this winter's styles, continues to

glint of gold or silver showing through the yoke or upper part of waist and sleeves; a short jacket or long coat, either is fashionable, and always handsome furs—these compose the costume, which in spite of its simplicity can be expensive enough to suit even the most extravagant. In black such a costume is considered smartest, but having one black costume does not in any way obviate the necessity for other costumes of the same description, only perhaps more elaborate. Blue in all shades, brown, tan, gray, red, yellow, each and all in velvet are effective and smart. The colored velvets are, as a rule, made up much more elaborately trimmed with embroidery and braiding and with fur, but they are no smarter



Black Velvet and Cloth Costume  
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Green Silk Cloth Costume  
Maison Bechoff-David



Breitschwantz Jacket and Velvet Gown  
Maison Drecoll

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Blue Satin Tailor Gown  
Maison Drecoll

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Blue Velvet Costume  
Maison Drecoll

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not mean the elaborate gown worn under the long loose coat, but the gown that looks well with the short fur jacket. The broadtail or baby lamb jacket is very smart, fanciful in design and trimmed quite elaborately with braid and buttons. There need not be any fur on the skirt; at the same time a band of it looks well, but the gown is supposed to be complete in itself, and the fur jacket is merely the outer garment or wrap worn with it. So soft and beautiful are the markings of the fur that it looks like a piece of moiré. Over velvet it is charming and rather richer in appearance than with the cloth, but a smart black cloth gown is always a desirable addition to the wardrobe.

The striped velvets that are fashionable this winter have not as yet become too popular, as it was feared they might, and there are a number of very smart costumes made of the material. Black or an extremely dark blue or brown with the hair line of white is chosen, and there are some patterns where the line is not white but the same color as the rest of



Satin and Lace Gown.

material can be so depended upon to make up well, to be draped or fitted to perfection. It is this winter combined with velvet and with satin or heavily trimmed with fur, and under all circumstances is smart. Black is the one exception, for while there are many charming black gowns and costumes the light colors have the preference. A good combination is voile de soie, cloth and fur, and this per-

especially needs this to relieve it and make it becoming. A clever way of accomplishing this result is the trimming with bands or folds of velvet of a dark color or black with just an edge of color or white, then an edge again showing on the revers or collar of the coat. The objection sometimes made to this style is that it looks rather "patchy" and is ineffective, and there is a certain amount of reason in the criticism. If so desired the edge can be omitted from any bands or folds on the skirt, but on the waist and coat they are invariably effective.

### Widely Varying Models.

It is interesting this season, to note how utterly different are many of the fashions—quite contradictory it would seem. There are most charming gowns without a particle of trimming. One favorite model for an evening gown is of satin without even lace in the sleeves, and another equally popular is of satin entirely covered with a tunic or overdress of white tissue with the tissue almost hidden under its embroidery of crystal beads interspersed with lace medallions, the pattern in each medallion outlined in rhinestones. Nothing more dissimilar than these two gowns, both designed for the same woman, could be imagined, and yet in the lines they are alike. In afternoon and street gowns these same curious contradictions exist, and after all it is a relief not to have everything on the same order.

To illustrate the truism that the exception proves the rule, a woman who is considered one of the best gowned matrons in New York society ordered this winter seven street gowns, all of the same style, and eight evening gowns, all the same but in different colors, and yet there are many women who spend time, strength and money without stint in the effort to secure variety in their dress.

Just a touch of white or bright color as facing or edge works wonders in a gown that is too sombre in hue. Black jackets are smart this season. This does



Black Velvet Gown with Venetian lace collar

worn for all occasions; the skirt short, the waist simple in design but with a

be it well understood. The satin costume was so exceedingly popular last summer that long before the winter there were many rumors heard that satin would not be fashionable at all this winter, and, anyway, that it was a material not suitable for street wear in cold weather. The heavy wool back satin is, however, a material quite impossible excepting in cold weather, and any number of black satin costumes are at this moment being made, while they are also to be seen worn by the smartest people. Fur as a trimming is by far the best, but, just as in the summer styles, the plain, untrimmed coat and skirt style finds many admirers, who contend that the separate furs are all that is necessary to the costume and that worn without them later it is complete. These touches of economy always seem a trifle inconsistent with such expensive gowns, but apart from the economical standpoint the gown is really quite as attractive.

Cloth is always a satisfactory material for many reasons, and the different colors and textures this season are extremely beautiful. The satin finish and, newer still, the so-called silk finish, are marvellously soft and effective and the



Blue and Black Gown with velvet trimmings

the material, but is in satin, which makes a contrast, and a charmingly effective one.

### PRACTICAL DRESS HINTS

There is so much remodelling of dress necessary this season that the tendency is to spend far more money than would be believed in the doing over of last winter's gowns. At first glance the problem of making over the wide skirts into the absurdly narrow ones now fashionable seems comparatively simple, but the task demands skill and patience, and it is really far better to recut the skirt entirely in many instances rather than to attempt to take it in at the various seams. An extremely practical woman who has the clothes question well worked out contends that this is not a season when it pays to make over old clothes. With so little material as is required in the fashionable gown it is better to buy all new, and a remnant of some superb fabric sold at a bargain will make a far smarter garment, while the time taken to make the new one will be less than that of the cutting and making over of the old world costume.



Blue Chiffon Gown.

The cloth of gold tissue with colors interwoven and a band of plain chiffon or satin make up most effectively, and a



Voile and Satin Gown for the South.

search through remnants will disclose rare treasures.