

From McCalls April 1931 Style News

McCalls Patterns “It’s the Shortcut to Paris Styles”

by Jackie Brooks

These are examples of some typical daytime dresses from 1931. There were many variations in fabric and colors as well as sleeve lengths and styles.

The sleeveless cape style gave a Bertha effect reminiscent of 1929 but cut in geometric shapes rather than rounded. The shorter cap sleeves showed decorative openings, elbow length sleeves had accent trim and the longer sleeves are cuffed.

The dresses feature scallops and geometric patterns following diagonal lines, with slightly fuller widths at the hemline, striking midway between the knees and ankle. The dresses with and without belts featured the natural waistline. There were even darts at the bustline on some to allow a more natural fullness as undergarments were also changing.

Notice the variety of hat styles, shapes and sizes. All appropriate for daytime and off the face.



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