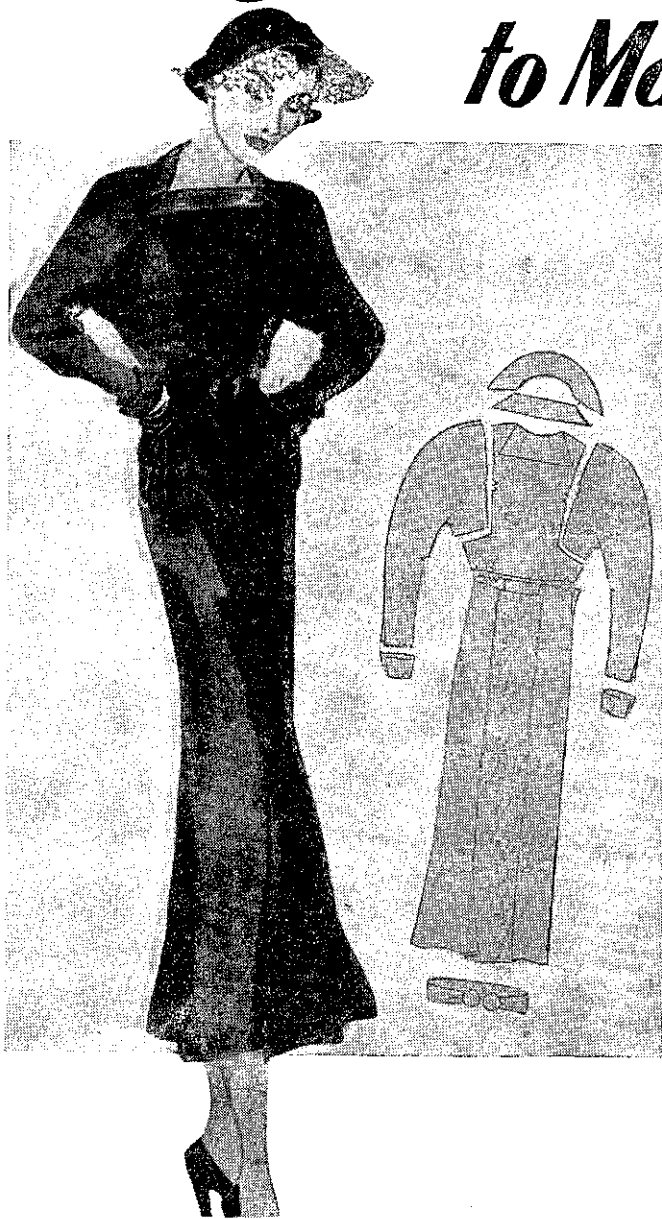


How good do I Have to be to Make a Dress?



WHY you don't have to be good at all to make this smart dress. There is nothing more to sewing than there is in learning to drive a car or to cook, and the results are so exciting (once you have made a successful dress) it gets into your blood, and you become a very charmingly dressed addict. Even if you've never made anything before there's no reason why you shouldn't start now.

The frock in the sketch is the easiest dress in the world to make—it is designed specially for beginners—but that doesn't mean it isn't extremely smart, with plenty of the newest fashion points about it. I'd suggest making it in soft washing wool; Viyella would be ideal. It is one of the easiest fabrics to handle if you are a beginner—I think a plain colour would be best, then you won't need to match the checks—or pattern—when you

are cutting out your dress. The collar might be velveteen, or as an alternative, how about choosing a patterned material, and having a collar and cuffs of that?

I'm most enthusiastic over this frock—do you realise it has only five major pieces—front and back of bodice, front and back of skirt, and the sleeves?

It's not the sort of dress to hang about unfinished either—you could make it in an afternoon. Just look at the sketch and notice the armholes. This means that setting in the sleeves in the ordinary way is done away with . . . also according to the Paris designers these deep sleeves are very slimming. The fullness acts as a disguise if you are big, and the width at the top makes your hips look delightfully small.

Don't let the pleats in the skirt worry you; they are very simple, being formed by bringing the small perforations to the large ones as you can see on the Chart, then all you have to do is to stitch them down.

Keep the Butterick Deltor by you as you work, and an iron, too, and let your motto be "Press as you go," then when you step out in your new dress you will find that you will be deluged with enquiries and the most flattering remarks from your friends.

This pattern is Butterick 6473, price 1/6. Cut in sizes 30in. to 44in.—you can get it at your local store.