

# A Magic Wrap for Evening

THE lovely new evening gowns of robe-de-Style type, with their gracefully sweeping longer lines at the back, such gowns as will be worn for weddings, graduation affairs, and dances through the spring and summer, require equally graceful accompanying wraps if they are to appear at their best. The wrap illustrated here, worn in three different ways, was designed with this particular type of dress in mind, although it is equally lovely over the more slender gowns.

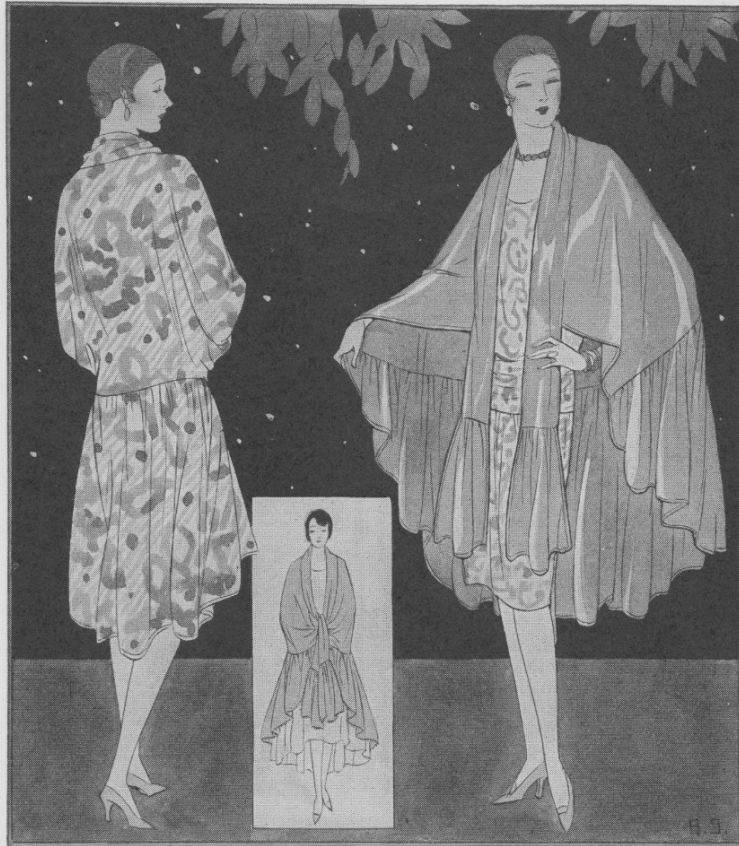
The upper section of the wrap is straight, and to it is gathered a skirt section, dipping at the lower edge from the waist line in front to a long line at the back. A long, scarf-like collar is attached to the upper edge of the straight section, the ends finished with gathered sections repeating the gathered theme of the skirt.

OF all the materials appropriate for evening wraps, chiffon and taffeta are the loveliest for this model. The new ensemble idea of a flowered chiffon gown with a matching wrap, is illustrated by the figure at the left. The wrap is of a single thickness of the chiffon, and is worn drawn in snugly about the hips so that it presents lines somewhat like a robe de Style. The edges are finished with fine, self-material bindings applied by hand. Plain chiffon may be used in the same way, matching or contrasting with the dress in color.

USING taffeta, one can produce a wrap with quite a different silhouette, as illustrated by the large figure at the right and the small one at the center. As worn at the right, the wrap falls loosely around the figure in beautifully flowing, cape-like lines. On the small figure, it is first arranged as at the right, then the scarf ends are looped over softly, as shown, and the ends of the waist-line seam are held in the hands and drawn up at the center front. This view shows the use of picoting as an edge finish.

THE diagram below shows how the sections of the wrap are cut from  $3\frac{3}{4}$  yards of 40-inch material. This provides a wrap that is suitable in size for any figure except the very short. For such a figure, shorten both the top and the skirt in order to keep the proportions correct.

From one corner of your material cut the top of the wrap, having it 52 inches



along the selvage and 20 inches, or one half the width of the material, along the cross grain. Along the remaining selvage on this side, 81 inches in length, cut the straight collar section, making it 12 inches wide. From the half width not used for the top of the wrap, cut the two gathered ends for the collar, as shown, making each 16 by 10 inches.

On the selvage of the remaining material, measure from the corner,  $a$ ,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  yards to  $b$ , or the length of the straight, upper edge of the skirt. Bring  $a$  over to  $b$ , making a fold, indicated by the dotted line  $cd$ , this marking the center back of the skirt. Shape the lower edge to individual taste, following the general line in the diagram. If you prefer, work this out in muslin or paper before cutting the wrap.

Use the remaining pieces of material for bias bindings if this finish is used on the edges, cutting them  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 inch wide and following a true bias.

IN making the wrap, first gather the top of the skirt, using two rows of gatherings to help in adjusting the gathers. Join this to the selvage edge of the top section with a plain seam, making a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam allowance on the upper section and a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch allowance on the gathered edge. After stitching, turn the wide allowance over the narrow and whip the edge of the selvage to the stitching, making a standing fell. Next, bind or picot the edges, leaving only the upper edge of the top unfinished. To this, apply the scarf collar, making it double so that it finishes  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide. Insert the top of the wrap and the scarf ends between the two thicknesses of this scarf, having first gathered the scarf ends along one of the longer edges after binding the other three edges.

When bindings are used as an edge finish for chiffon or taffeta, particularly when the edges are curved, as in this wrap, they should be applied by hand, using running-stitches for the first seam and fine whipping-stitches for the second. Such bindings give the garment a pleasing "French accent."

