

FASHION, SHOPPING & CARE™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens

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CLOTHING CARE ... with Steve

FASHION & STYLE ... with Gina



Stain School: Reweaving ... last steps

Restoration & Savings IV

We've covered reknitting for sweaters, typical holes, and insect damage in clothing, so now it's time to address tears.

What Can Be Done About Tears?

I mentioned that "L-Shaped" tears, up to one inch, can be effectively rewoven providing the tear is clean — without jagged edges. (Remember that gabardine is tough to repair.)

Tears from file cabinets, desks and sharp edges are often "clean" enough to reweave.

- If the tear is too jagged to reweave, a good seamstress can often add a patch from underneath. It's not a weave, but it may save the garment.
- If the tear is close to a side seam, the seamstress may be able to taper an area and blend the tear into the seam.
- If the tear is nowhere near a seam, it may be possible to add a "dart." Or, in a pinch, a patch or design could be added or embroidered over the problem area.

Tears Larger Than One Inch

Large tears can still be rewoven, but you should assess the value of the garment because price becomes an issue. The other concerns with larger tears are strength and longevity. Stress areas such as the crotch, seat, knee and elbow may not hold a weave.

Shopping Savvy – Personal Shopping

In many cases, your personal shopper can work with your teenage kids, husbands, do gift shopping for your family — including Grandma and kids — providing choices from every department in the store.

Steve Boorstein is an author, clothier, drycleaner & radio personality

Building a Wardrobe: Fall 2005

Building a Wardrobe: Fall!

Luxurious Details

Fur (faux or real) is popping up everywhere. Designers are trimming collars, cuffs, hems, and hoods with a variety of furs.

Editor's Note: Caring for fur and faux is easy, so don't let cleaning be a deterrent. Just make sure that your furs are glazed, reconditioned and properly stored each year.

A fur vest is an elegant evening option, especially paired over a dress. This season it's all about mixing and matching, from fabrics to colors, so go ahead, be daring! Jewelry continues to be layered, with big chunky beads and chains completing any look. Fabric covered jewels are newest and are all the rage with fashionable people.

Hats ... a super hot fashion accessory that adds instant style: Whether it's the newsboy, cowboy or fedora, a hat is "hot" in menswear fabrics like houndstooth, herringbone and tweed.

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Bags are luxurious when done in rich brocade fabrics, decadent colors, overdyed colored leathers, and crochet and handknit styles. Eclectic details like Horn handles, faux fur, military style buckles, and grommets give an ordinary bag a notch up.

As for shapes, bags are either structured like the vintage inspired "frame" bags we saw from Prada, or completely unstructured in a baroque style, with an unstructured non-shape, in either a satchel or slight hobo style.



Known as The Style Doctor®, people around the world count on the stylish advice of Gina La Morte, Celebrity Fashion Stylist, and founder of TheStyleDoctor.com.

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