

The
Pledge Manual
of
Delta Kappa National Fraternity, Inc.



A Guidebook for Pledges

tive apparel are offered. The material is by no means complete, but what is presented should serve as a convenient and reliable guide. Additional or supplementary hints can be derived from other authenticated literature. Remember that correct attire is an asset to the individual as well as the Fraternity. Get into the habit of dressing according to the demands of the occasion.

Dress and color. The selection of color is an integral part of proper dress. If color choice is ignored and not wisely employed, clothing will appear conspicuous and out of place. On the other hand, if color is used to best advantage, a conservative and well planned appearance is achieved. Therefore, much effort should be spent in effecting the color schemes which exemplify the tastes of reasonable gentlemen.

Dress Right Color Guide

								SPORTSWEAR	
Suit	Shirt	Tie	Socks	Shoes	Hat	Coat	Gloves	Jacket	Slacks
Blue	White Blue	Blue Maroon	Blue Black	Black Brown	Gray Brown	Blue Camel	Gray Tan	Blue	Gray or Light Blue
Gray	White Blue Gray	Blue Maroon Black	Blue Maroon Black	Brown Black	Gray Brown	Tan Gray Blue	Tan Gray	Gray	Blue or Dark Gray
Brown	White Tan Light Blue	Maroon Blue Green Brown Blue	Maroon Blue Green Brown Blue	Brown	Brown	Brown Tan Camel	Tan	Brown	White Tan or Light Blue

Courtesy of Sisson's Ivy Shop, Milwaukee, Wis.

The chart above is a basic guide for simple clothing combinations. Particular attention should be directed to the fact that color scheme entails a "head to heels" consideration. Even the matching of leathers is important, for instance, wearing a black belt with black shoes, and vice versa. Make a regular practice of referring to the chart at least until proper selection of colors becomes a permanently established habit.

In addition to knowing what colors go best together, the pledge should be conscious of the physical factors which govern or influence the selection of color schemes. One important physical factor is body structure. A heavy or large proportioned individual, for example, must avoid the use of light, white, or warm colors because this will emphasize his weight or size. A small man, however, should select the light or warm colors so as to increase his apparent size. On the other hand, a tall individual can decrease his apparent height by wearing a different colored coat and trouser combination; whereas, by the same token, the short person would cut himself in two and appear even shorter.

The aforementioned examples are only a few of the color limita-

tions governed by body structure; but in any case, the examples should illustrate the relationship of physical proportion to color scheme selection. If ever in doubt as to the colors which best complement a particular physical structure, the safest choice would be the more neutral or duller shades.

The color of hair, skin, and eyes, referred to as personal coloring, also limit the selection of certain ranges of color. The dark-complexioned individual, for instance, must refrain from wearing light colors for this tends to make him appear darker. However, the light textured person would present himself to the very best advantage in light colors because he would be repeating his own personal coloring.

There are far too many classifications of personal coloring to present in this manual. Nevertheless, do not fail to recognize the important influence that this physical factor has on the choice of colors. If necessary, experiment with different colored suits, shirts, ties, and accessories; and determine those colors which emphasize that which is most pleasing and subdue that which is least pleasing. As stated earlier, the neutral or duller colors are best, when in doubt as to what to use.

Dress and design. Since the past few decades, design in men's clothing has become increasingly popular. Actually, there is a great variety of patterns and solids from which to choose. As with the selection of color, however, there are certain precautions which govern the choice of design. The heavy proportioned individual who wears horizontal pin striped suits is a pronounced example of how not to improve appearance through the use of design. In order to present himself at best advantage, the stout fellow should employ the use of verticle pin strips or solids; also he should avoid highly patterned or checkered suits because this will make his size even more obvious.

The previous example indicates the importance of body structure as related to design selection. Again, as with color, the mere knowledge of such a relation should create a critical awareness in design choice.

The only other necessary factor of design which deserves consideration is the use of common sense. Be practical and get the knack of using patterns and solids correctly. If ever in doubt, use the following rule: "Favor a solid colored shirt and 'quiet' tie with a big pattern suit, or patterned shirt with restrained tie with solid suit."¹

Dress and the occasion. Another very important factor of dress and appearance is the choice of clothing. The individual is confronted with the problem of what is appropriate under what circumstances. Fortunately, the restrictions which govern dress selection are rather vague or general in nature. A person, for in-

¹Sisson's Ivy Shop, *The How and Why of Dress*, A Dress Guide Prepared by Sisson's Ivy Shop, Milwaukee, Wisconsin [n.p.]: [n.n.], [n.d.], p. 2.

stance, can meet the clothing demands of an ordinary church observance by appearing in any attire which indicates proper respect. Although certain precautions are necessary in the use of color and design, the individual's choice is not confined to one particular type of apparel. He is free to favor his own personal tastes to a great extent. Strictly speaking, and only to mention a few, the person may appear in a suit; or he might decide upon a sportcoat combination; he may prefer a bow tie to the more common necktie, or vice versa; or he may appear with or without a hat. Essentially, the fellow is bound only by general rather than specific or absolute limitations.

Contrast the clothing demands influenced by church attendance to other situations, such as, the garments which should be worn at play, at home, on the job, or in school. The paralleling freedom of selection is quite obvious. Only broad restrictions are designated. The apparel for work or play should be functional or practical while the complimentary or comfortable attire would be appropriate for school and the home. The very nature of these general restrictions indicates that the correct clothing choice can be made through simple reasoning or deduction. When the demands of the occasion are considered logically and a clothing selection is made accordingly, the effected appearance will reasonably complement the situation.

There are a few occasions, however, where the liberty of individual choice is reduced to absolute conformity. Normally, such occasions can be classified according to formal, semi-formal, or informal activities. Very definite and explicit fashions have been determined by society to be appropriate for these affairs. Since the fraternity man will be required from time to time throughout college life, perhaps even thereafter, to participate in the events which demand unconditional congruity, he should be fully aware of the clothing which is common to the informal, semi-formal, and formal activities.

Since the prospective member may not be completely familiar with the types of attire which complement the informal, formal, and semi-formal day and evening functions, practical and authoritative information is presented in the pages that follow. The pledge should pay close attention to all the details because they are derived from the forms and customs established by tradition through the years.

The dress chart on the next page illustrates the clothing which is appropriate for a particular occasion. A more detailed description of each type of attire follows the chart. The pictures and much of the information were furnished through the courtesy of Sherkow Men's Formal Wear, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

DRESS CHART

Events	Fall and Winter	Spring and Summer
Informal Day	Business Suit	Business Suit
Semi-Formal Day	Tuxedo	Dinner Jacket
Formal Day	Cutaway	Cutaway
Informal Evening	Business Suit	Business Suit
Semi-Formal Evening	Tuxedo	Dinner Jacket
Formal Evening	Tailcoat	Tailcoat

NOTE: Evening is considered after 6:00 P.M., while day is considered before that hour.

THE HOMES OF PERFECTION IN MEN'S FORMAL WEAR



MEN'S FORMAL WEAR

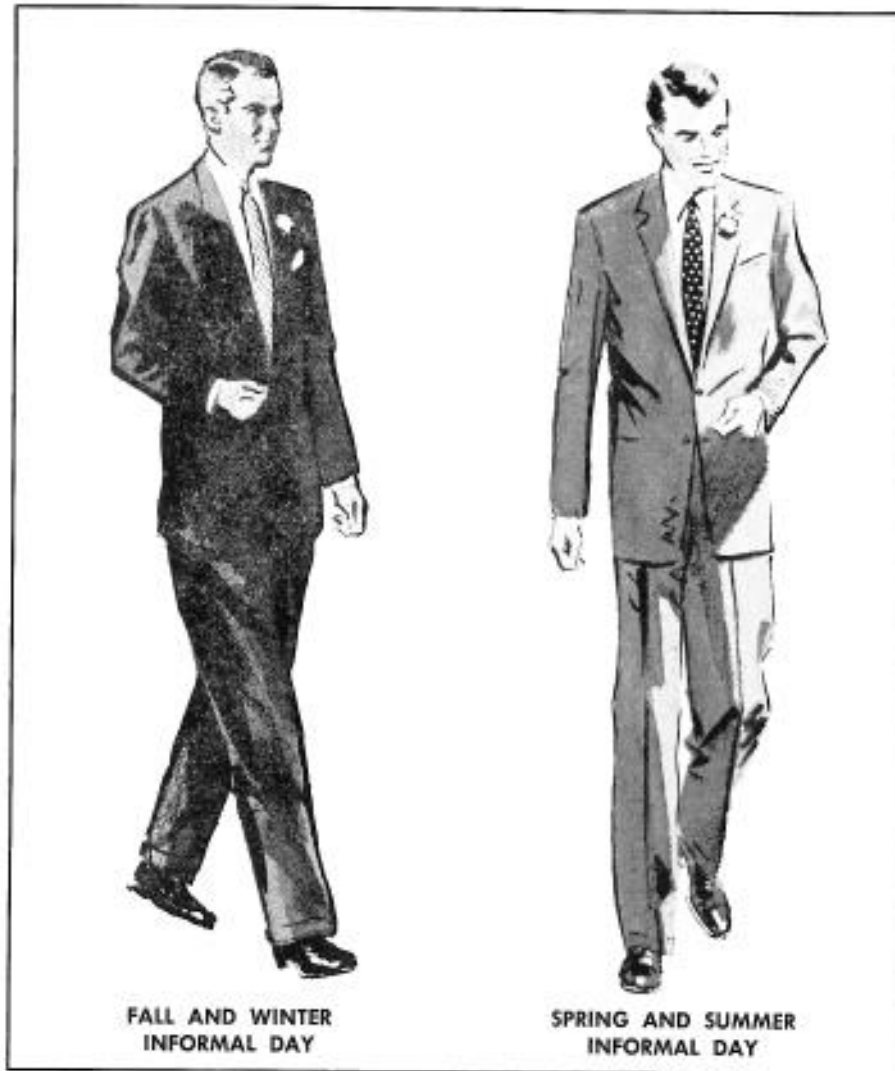
960 North Third Street, BRoadway 6-9191
433 West Silver Spring Drive, WOODRUFF 4-9300
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Ivy Shop
NORTH WATER
A step South of E. Wisconsin

the how and why of **Dress Right**

The business suit. The business suit is appropriate for all informal activities. The type and color of suit as well as accessories are determined by the time of day and season. The illustrations and explanations contained on this and the following page indicate that which is most desired for such occasions.



Fall and winter informal day activities: The individual should wear a dark gray worsted suit with a single-breasted jacket. Accessories include a felt hat, gray figured tie, white broadcloth shirt, and black shoes.

Spring and summer informal day activities: A gray flannel suit is preferred by most gentlemen. Accessories include a white shirt with an attached collar, blue and white polka dot tie, gray felt hat,

black calf shoes, and a white boutonniere.

Fall and winter informal evening activities: A dark blue, gray, or black suit with a double breasted-jacket would be in good taste. The accessories include a white shirt with a starched or soft collar, gray checked tie, black shoes, dark blue or black hat, and a boutonniere.

Spring and summer informal evening activities: The theme is simplicity. The dark blue lightweight business suit is favored in a single-breasted model. White shirt, checked tie, and black shoes are handsome mates.





The tuxedo. The tuxedo is the correct semi-formal apparel for fall and winter day and evening activities. This particular attire may be used in place of the tailcoat at formal dances or highly ceremonious social affairs if local college custom permits. The tuxedo is worn with a white pleated or pique front shirt with turn-down collar, plain black or midnight blue bow tie with matching cummerbund, black shoes, Homburg, and gray suede gloves if desired.

The white dinner jacket. The white dinner jacket is a variant form of the tuxedo. This attire is appropriate for semi-formal functions occurring during the day or evening in the spring and summer. The white dinner jacket is worn with black or midnight blue trousers, black or midnight blue cummerbund and matching bow tie, black pumps or oxfords, white pleated pique front shirt with turn-down collar, lightweight straw hat, and gold or pearl studs and links.

The oxford cutaway. The oxford cutaway, also referred to as the morning coat, is the appropriate attire for formal morning or afternoon activities. The cutaway can be worn in either black or gray with a gray double-breasted waistcoat, striped trousers, silk ascot with wing collar or four-in-hand tie with turn-down collar, plain black shoes, gray suede gloves, silk top hat, pearl stickpin, and gold, pearl, or stone cuff links and studs.

The oxford stroller. The oxford stroller is a short jacket form of the oxford cutaway. This attire is used as a substitute for the morning coat when the morning or afternoon occasion demands a little less formality. The oxford stroller jacket, which can be procured in black or gray, is worn with striped trousers, gray double-breasted waistcoat, four-in-hand tie with turn-down collar shirt, plain toe black shoes, gray suede or mocha gloves, black or gray Homburg, pearl stickpin, and gold, pearl, or stone studs and links.



The tailcoat. The tailcoat, sometimes referred to as the full dress suit, is the correct attire for all strictly formal evening affairs. The tailcoat is worn with a pique shirt, wing collar with a white bow tie, white single-breasted waistcoat, white gloves, white or pearl studs and links, silk top hat, and black shoes.



TAILCOAT

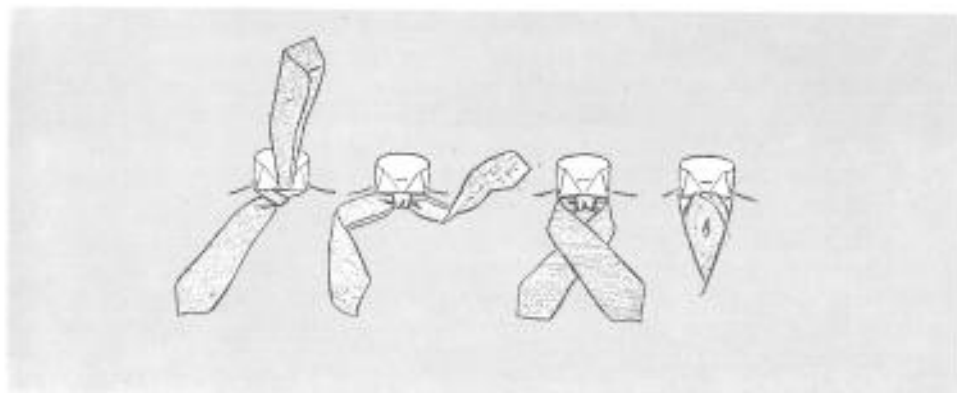
The dress check. The last important factor of dress and appearance is the care of clothing. Neglected attire challenges attention and destroys the possibility of a well-dressed appearance. A little extra time and effort is therefore imperative, especially when expended in the right direction.

Take time out to look in a full-length mirror and check carefully from head to foot before going into public. The shirt collar should be straight and even, the tie carefully selected and tied neatly, the suit and trousers well pressed, the shoes polished with emphasis on the toes and the back of the heels, and finally, the entire outfit should be free of wrinkles and soils. If everything is all right, the proper appearance has been achieved.

Attention, however, must be called to the fact that a guaranteed impression will not be created by merely instigating a last minute check. Clothes deserve care and checking even before they are worn. Simple things, like correctly placing clothes on well-shaped hangers, removing spots before they get an opportunity to set, and pressing suits frequently are important factors to appearance and garment preservation. Remember that clothes tell more at first glance than any other single thing. If a favorable initial impression is desired, conduct a proper dress check regularly.

Although the necktie has been mentioned earlier as an important part of the dress check, space has been provided to include the different ways in which the knot can be tied so as to produce the best results. If the illustrations are unfamiliar, take time out to practice. The results will be pretty close to magic.

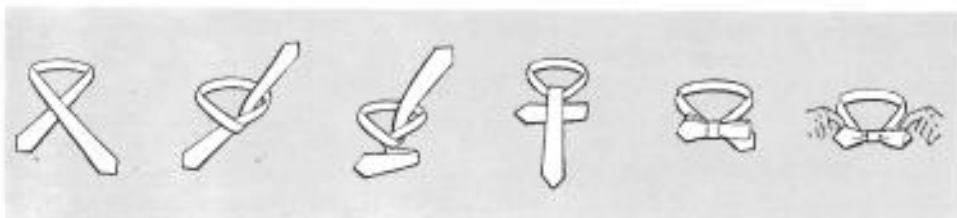
Ways to tie the windsor and bow tie were graciously submitted by Sission's Ivy Shop, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Ascot**

1. With one end of tie $1\frac{1}{2}$ " longer, bring one end under and up in back to form a slip knot at the collar.
2. Tie a square knot.
3. Cross one part of the tie over the other.
4. Adjust the tie as illustrated with one side over-lapping the other. A pearl stickpin through the two ends will produce the desired results.

**Windsor**

1. With wide end about 12" longer, loop over as shown.
2. Bring wide end around and back of narrow end.
3. Then up and side opposite loop to form a "V" knot.
4. Now down, bring around and over the front as illustrated.
5. Then back under "V" knot and roll up through center.
6. Work end down through outer loop, dimple and tighten.

**Bow**

1. Have one end of tie $1\frac{1}{2}$ " longer.
2. Bring under and cross over and up in back to form slip knot at collar.
3. Loop short end, hold in thumb and next finger.
4. Drop long end over loop and slip under finger.
5. Then through opening at back to form rear loop.
6. Put fingers in loops and tighten, adjust ends evenly.