

4-H Clothing Buymanship Tuesday

Week 3 Challenge

Garment Quality & Purchasing Clothes

When purchasing a garment:

- Make sure it will coordinate with the rest of your wardrobe
- Choose colors and styles that will help you develop the image you want to project
- Comparison shop to get the most desirable item for your money
- Examine workmanship
 - Fabric – firm; if loosely woven, make sure is stabilized; no imperfections
 - Garment Care – requirements printed on label are convenient and realistic
 - Seams – at least ½ inch wide; flat; finished
 - Stitching – small; even; straight; check for loose thread ends
 - Zippers – lie flat; completely covered by the fabric; stitching even; zipper pull locks at top
 - Buttons and Snaps – firmly sewn; spaced evenly and smoothly; buttonhole stitching close and even, straight with the grain, and tacked at both ends
 - Hems – invisible; if alteration needed, make sure is wide enough
 - Neckline and Collar – centered; lie smooth; under collar not visible; collar points even
 - Pockets – conveniently located; evenly matched on both sides; bar-tacked at corners
 - Trims – good quality; require same cleaning procedures as fabric
- Try on clothing
 - Look at yourself in the mirror (back, front, and sides)
 - Sit down and/or walk around to determine comfort and fit
 - Get an honest opinion from a friend, parent, or relative

Choose a few pair of jeans from your wardrobe that are made by different manufacturers and compare quality using the workmanship information given above. This will give you some practice looking for quality garments so you are ready for your next shopping trip.

Questions to think about:

Did you find some differences in quality in the jeans you compared?

What were the differences?

Why is quality important in the garments you purchase?

What are some other examples of quality being important?

