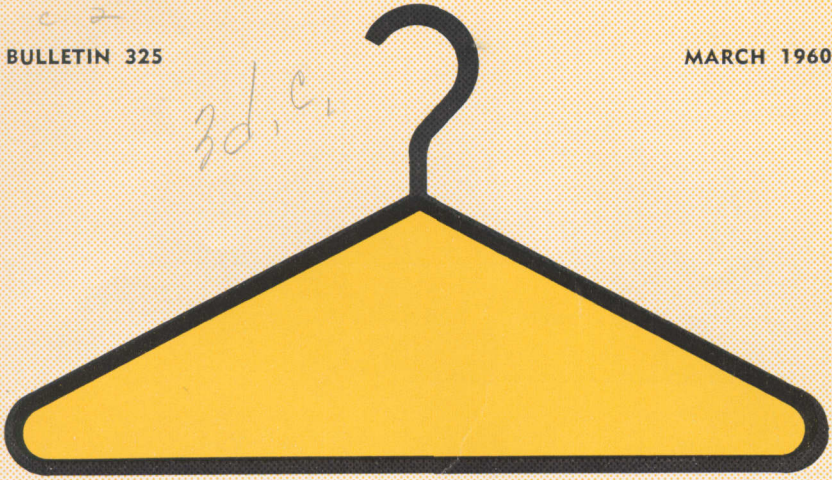


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ROD CLOSETS FOR SOUTHERN FARM HOMES



AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
AUBURN UNIVERSITY

E. V. Smith, Director

Auburn, Alabama

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ROD CLOSETS **for** **SOUTHERN FARM HOMES¹**

KATHRYN PHILSON, *Home Economist*

MOST FARM FAMILIES in the South need more space for hanging clothes. A survey of owner-operator farm families in seven Southern States in 1948² showed that only one-fourth of the homes had as many as one closet per bedroom and that more than one-third had no clothes closets.

When families do not have closet space, they resort to portable wardrobes or nails along walls. Neither is a satisfactory solution to the problem, built-in closets are better.

Recommendations for closet space are often given in terms of number of closets. Families need more specific information to plan efficient closet space.

The results reported here provide the basis for estimating closet requirements and for determining adequate dimensions.

METHOD of STUDY

Space requirements for garments on hangers were determined on a per-garment basis by measuring many garments of each kind and calculating averages for rod length and ranges for length and width of garments.

There is often a difference between the length of a garment on a hanger when it hangs alone and when it is part of a group on a rod. Garments when hung in groups tend to become wider, shorter, and thinner than when they are hung singly. Since a

¹ A partial report of a clothing storage study supported by funds provided by the Hatch Act (1955) and by State Research funds. It is a contributing study to Southern Regional Housing Project S-8.

² *Farm Housing in the South*. South. Coop. Ser. Bul. 14, pp. 13-14. 1951.

garment's greatest length is observed when it is hung singly, this length was used in determining rod height. Because a garment's width is greatest when it is in a group, this width was used in determining closet depth.

Determination of rod space per garment was made by hanging various numbers of each type of garment on a rod and calculating the average space required by each. In making these determinations the first garment was hung against a free-swinging backboard suspended from the rod. As garments were added, each was pushed against the next as far as it could go but still hang vertically. Care was taken also to see that the backboard was not pushed from its vertical position.

In the case of some garments, there is a question as to whether the user will hang or fold them. Information on preferred methods of storing such garments was obtained by interviews with farm homemakers, who also contributed information on preferred locations for storing garments.

Numbers of garments to be measured for each rod closet were based on the numbers of garments in use by 751 owner-operator farm families in the South as reported in a survey of housing needs and preferences in 1948³. The report of the survey lists numbers of garments of each kind owned by age, sex, and socio-economic group. In the study reported here, three levels of ownership were selected for each of the foregoing groups and designated as minimum, moderate, and liberal⁴.

Since closet size should be determined by the user's greatest requirement, dimensions of the closet for each family member were based on requirements of the age group needing the most storage space. The age groups setting the requirements were found to be: men 20 through 39, married; women 20 through 39; men 20 through 39, unmarried; and girls 15 through 19.

³ *Op. cit.* Tables 109 and 111, pp. 194-201 and 207-215.

⁴ Determination of levels of ownership and of numbers of garments at each level was made as follows: The median and third quartile numbers of garments for each age, sex, and socio-economic group were determined. The third quartile numbers owned by the lower socio-economic group and the median numbers owned by the higher socio-economic group were in each case very nearly the same. Therefore, three levels were indicated. These levels and the numbers of garments for each were specified as follows:

Minimum—median numbers of garments reported by lower socio-economic group.

Moderate—third quartile numbers of garments reported by lower socio-economic group and median numbers of garments reported by higher socio-economic group.

Liberal—third quartile numbers of garments reported by higher socio-economic group.

TYPE and LOCATION of ROD CLOSETS

Every bedroom needs some rod space. If more than one person uses a bedroom, it is desirable to have separate closet space for each. As one husband put it, "I don't want to reach for a shirt and get a blouse." The closet should be so located in the bedroom as to provide direct paths from room door to closet door; and, if possible, should be so planned that the closet is well lighted and that the room door does not swing in front of the closet door.

Farm homes need a place near the back door for storage of work wraps, hats, and boots. A back hall, workroom, or even a back porch is a good location for storing such garments, which need ventilation because they are sometimes damp or wet. They need to be out of sight and away from the dining area.

Wraps other than those used for work are most convenient when stored near the front door or whatever entrance is nearest the driveway or carport. A closet here may also be used for hanging guests' wraps. If such a closet is used, the dimensions of bedroom closets may be reduced.

Closets for hanging out-of-season garments and infrequently used items may be located in the attic or other out-of-way area. If such space is available, it will not add much to the cost of the house. Storage of this kind may reduce the requirement for space in bedroom closets but only slightly. In spring and fall when the weather is changeable, both winter and summer clothes are needed in the bedroom. It is better to plan bedroom rod space without regard for the out-of-season space, since this will allow some leeway for change of fashion and other factors that affect closet space requirements.

DIMENSIONS for ROD CLOSETS

Depth

Depth is the distance from front to back of the closet, Figure 1. While several factors may influence the depth requirement, no rod closet should be less than 24 inches deep **on the inside** if garments are to be hung with their edges toward the front.

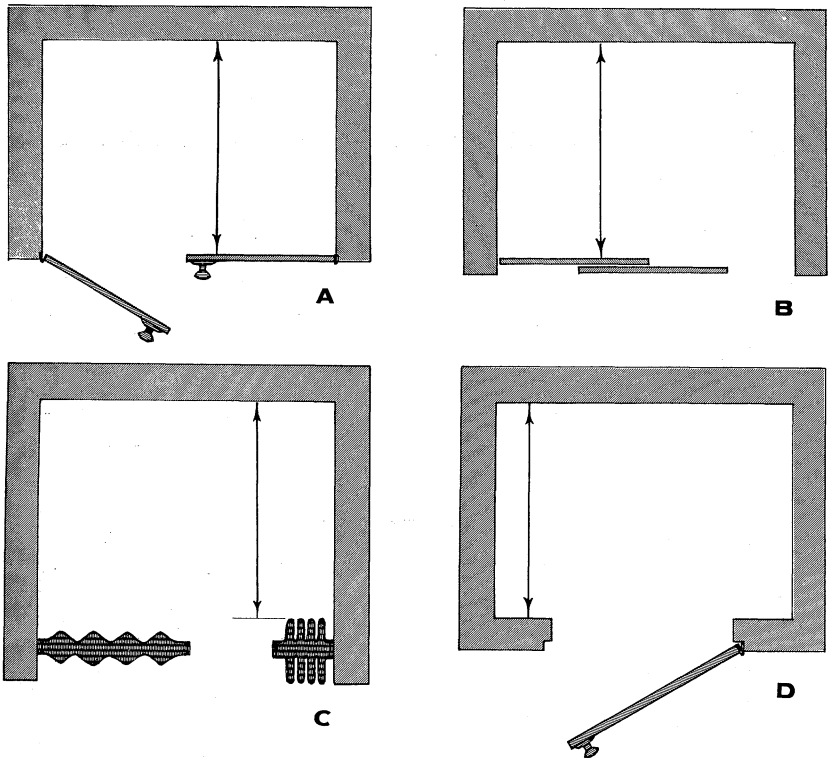


FIGURE 1. Arrows show the points of depth measurement for closets equipped with (A) two hinged doors, (B) sliding doors, (C) accordion-fold doors, and (D) stud-wall front and hinged door.

Many garments ordinarily stored on hangers are fully 24 inches wide as shown in Figure 2. When garments are hung close to each other on the rod, they tend to be pressed to a greater width than when hung singly. If the closet is too shallow, wide garments scrape the wall as they are pushed along the rod, and they may be crumpled between the door and the back of the closet. It is best to have bedroom closets even more than 2 feet deep. Depths of 26 to 28 inches are desirable if no coats with large sleeves are to be stored in the closet.

Coat closets need to be deeper than others. Women's coat sleeves are often large, and as a rule coats are less compressible than other garments. Coat closets may be 26 to 30 inches deep. The 30-inch depth is needed for women's coats with large cuffs.

When planning closets with sliding or folding doors, depth



FIGURE 2. Widths of garments show why rod closets should have a depth of 2 feet or more. The dark panel in each case is 2 feet wide. The garments shown are not especially wide ones.

needs to be given special attention, Figure 1. If thick sliding doors are used, the inside of the inner door may be as much as 3 inches from the outside of the outer door. Depth must be counted from the inside of the inner door to the back of the unit. Figure 1-B shows how to measure for depth in a closet with sliding doors. Some folding doors are nearly 6 inches thick when fully extended and over 8 inches thick when pushed to open position. Therefore, it is important to plan for depth according to the type of door used. Figure 1-C shows how to measure closet depth when accordion-type folding doors are used.

If shoe racks are to be placed on hinged doors, the depth of the closet should be increased to provide needed space. This additional space will not be needed if the rack is placed low enough to allow the shoes to fit under the garments on the rod.

Height

Closets usually extend from floor to ceiling, so their total height is determined. Height of rod and shelves should be varied according to needs of the user.

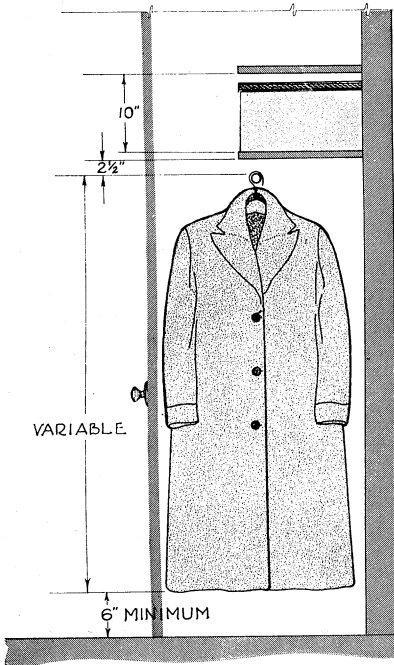


FIG. 3. Illustration shows dimensions to be used for estimating rod and shelf heights.

Both rod and shelving are more useful if they are low enough to be seen and reached easily. A space of about 2 1/2 inches should be allowed between shelf and rod to provide for placing hangers on the rod. Between the longer garments and the floor, a space of about 6 inches is required for using the dust mop or vacuum cleaner. The rest of the height varies between persons, since it is the distance from the top of the rod to the bottom of the longer garments, Figure 3.

For children and very short or very tall adults, it is better to measure the length of the garments and the hanger. For adults of average height, the information in Table 1, page 44,

may be used. For example, the longest garment for an average man does not exceed 54 inches in length. A rod height of 60 inches will allow 6 inches below the bottom of this garment. The bottom of the shelf above the rod will be $62\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the floor, a height that makes the shelf easy to reach and even see into.

The rod height for women's garments usually can be much lower if long robes and evening dresses can be stored in another place, Table 1. In such a case, the rod would be easier to reach, and the shelving above would be more useful.

In a child's closet, the rod height should be low enough for his or her present needs but adjustable to adult height, Figure 4. Adjustable shelving should be located $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the rod. Rod and shelving may be moved upward as the child grows.



FIGURE 4. Rod heights for children: the 3-year-old girl's sashes nearly touch the floor, but the 6-year-old boy's clothes are not too long for rods 42 inches above floor. The rod holders have three adjustments and also can be unscrewed and raised, as is the case of the shelves.

Length

Length of the closet is based on the number and kind of garments owned and stored on the rod by the person using it. Age, sex, income, fashion, interest in clothes, and many other factors influence the number of garments owned by an individual.

The average space per garment for items most frequently stored on rods is given in Table 2, page 44. These measurements may be used in estimating rod length, provided the user knows how many of each kind are to be stored.

Information in Tables 3 and 4, pages 45-46, may be used in estimating requirements on the basis of position in the family and level of ownership. The rod lengths suggested are based on the numbers of items owned by families included in a survey taken in 1948.⁵ These and other tables on rod lengths give requirements at minimum, moderate, and liberal levels.

Rod lengths suggested for each person represent the highest requirement for the total time he or she will use it. For the girl, this is the requirement of the late teens; for the boy, it is the requirement of an unmarried man in his 20's and 30's; for the married man and woman, it is the requirement in their 20's and 30's.

It is cheaper to make the closet large enough for each person's maximum requirement when it is built than to have to enlarge it. For young children this means having closets larger than they need for a while, Figure 5. The extra space may be used for toys or other items when the child is small. Sometimes two small children may use the same closet.

As far as men's clothing is concerned, there seems to be a great deal of difference of opinion as to whether to hang or fold work pants, work shirts, and dress shirts. It is easier to hang a garment than to fold it, but for reasons of appearance of the garment some prefer folding. These items take a great deal of rod space, but rod space is easier to build than space for folded garments. If none of his shirts and work pants were hung, the man with a moderate number of garments would need only 19½ inches of rod length. Adding work pants (13½ inches), work shirts (9 inches), dress shirts (9 inches), and wool shirt (1½ inches) makes this rod length requirement 52½ inches. Space requirements for

⁵ *Ibid.*

hanging all of these items except dress shirts are given in Tables 3 and 4. If dress shirts are to be hung rather than folded, a space equal to that for work shirts should be added to each rod length requirement, except that of the boy's rod closet, for a liberal

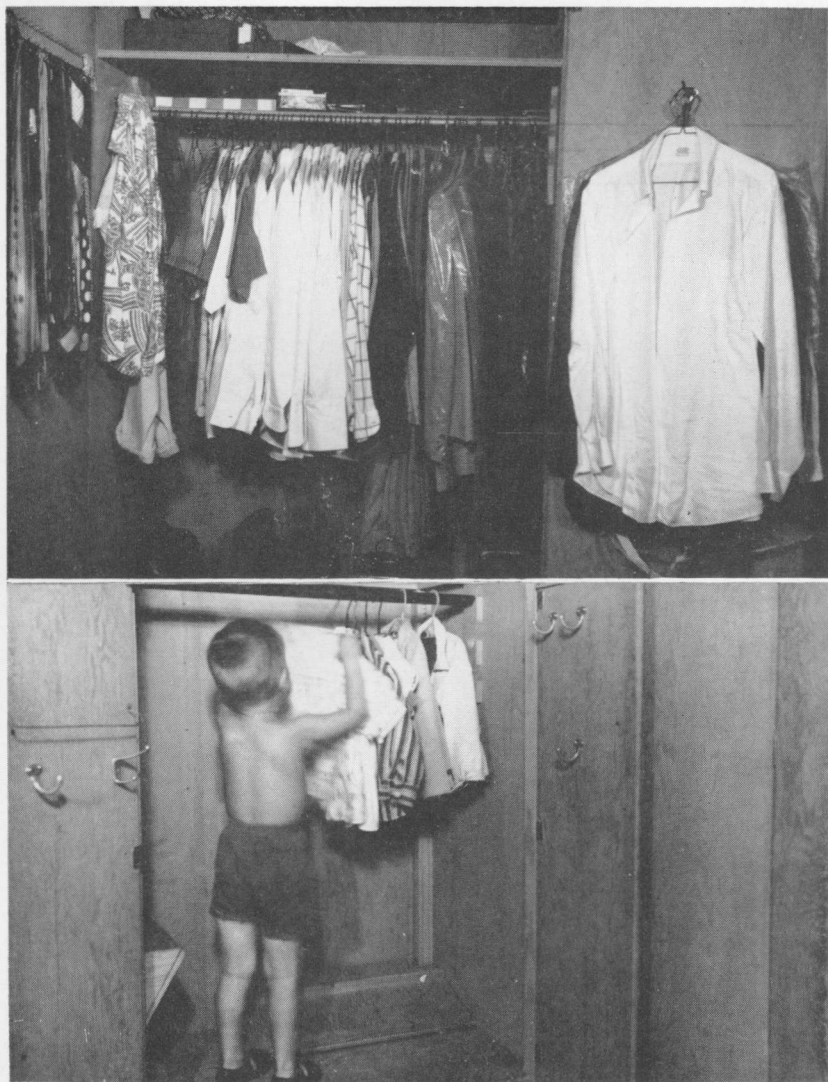


FIGURE 5. Rod length requirements vary with age; although this child needs little space now, his father's crowded closet shows what the boy may need in about 18 years. The father is also using 20 inches of rod length in another closet.

number of garments. For this closet 12 inches should be added if dress shirts are stored there.

Some sweaters for women may be hung, but usually they are stored in drawers or on shelves. Evening dresses, because of the infrequency of their use and their unusual dimensions, are often stored at some place other than the bedroom rod closet. Tables 3 and 4 do not include space for storing women's and girl's sweaters and evening dresses.

When planning space for hanging evening dresses, plenty of rod length should be allowed—6 to 12 inches each for full-skirted ones and 3 to 6 inches apiece for others. Expected numbers of evening dresses and rod requirements at three levels are given in Table 5, page 46. From this table it may be seen that, at the minimum and moderate levels of ownership, the problem does not exist, or is minor in families with only one girl. At the liberal level a 3- to 5-foot rod is needed for evening dresses for one woman and one girl.

Wraps for work and play should be stored in a unit away from the bedroom. Space for storing these wraps is not included in Tables 3 and 4. Requirements for rod space for work wraps for a family of four at three levels of ownership are listed in Table 6, page 47. Rod closets provide the most compact storage for work and play wraps. Coats are kept in better shape and dry more easily when hung on hangers than when stored on pegs or hooks.

If hooks or pegs are used for storing wraps, they should be spaced about 6 to 12 inches apart. Heavy coats and jackets require 12 inches each and light sweaters and jackets, 6 inches. A hook should be allowed for each garment. This requires a great deal of space along the wall. A family of four with a moderate amount of clothing would need 21 hooks, Table 6. This would require about 15 feet of wall space. The same 21 items could be stored on hangers on a 3-foot rod.

Dress coats and overcoats may be stored in bedroom rod closets. However, in some cases it is desirable to have a separate closet for them. At the liberal level of ownership, the rod requirement for a woman or girl is more than 5 feet when wraps are not included. If more than one person is to use the bedroom, it becomes a problem to find enough space for the rod closets. Space for dress wraps at the liberal level is not included in Tables 3 and 4. A total of 26 inches is required at this level for dress

wraps of a family of four, Table 6. Many families will wish to add 2 or 3 feet of rod length for hanging guests' wraps.

At the moderate level of ownership, it may be desirable to store dress wraps in the bedroom. Rod lengths for this level in Tables 3 and 4 include these wraps. Rod length required for dress wraps at the moderate level is given in Table 6. If separate storage is provided for them, the length of bedroom rods may be correspondingly shortened.

Some families may wish to plan rod space for storage of out-of-season garments. Such storage is not a space saver as far as the total rod storage in the house is concerned. However, it is a convenience to have out-of-season clothes out of the way. Also it is easier to protect these garments from moths and dust if the closet doors can be kept shut.

The space requirement for storage of out-of-season garments is the greatest in summer. Given in Table 7, page 48, is the rod length required for storage of all such garments except work wraps for a family of four. It must be understood that these amounts are not to be subtracted from the bedroom rod length. More garments are taken from this unit for summer storage than for winter storage. During the change of seasons variable temperatures require having some summer and some winter garments in the bedroom closet.

When there is a rod closet for work and play wraps, it is most economical to place the out-of-season ones in garment bags and store them at one end of the rod during the summer. The survey showed that no summer work and play wraps were stored during the winter. Given in Table 8, page 49, is information on rod length requirements for out-of-season storage of wraps for work and play.

RACKS and SHELVING for ROD CLOSETS

In addition to garments stored on hangers, certain other items of clothing and accessories are ordinarily stored in bedroom closets. Most common among these are belts, ties, shoes, hats, and such garments as nightwear and slippers that are to be used again before laundering. These items are stored on hooks, special racks, or shelving.

Belts

Women differ as to their preference for storing each belt on the hanger with its dress or grouping the belts in one place. Some belts are used with more than one dress and need separate storage.

Belts may be stored on hinged closet doors. Those with buckles may be hung on small hooks or even nails. If the door is narrow, a horizontal rod, such as a towel bar, should be placed about 12 inches below the hooks. The belts are slipped behind to keep them from swinging out into the door closure. This rod is also useful for storing tie belts. To make the belts accessible, a hook should be allowed for each one, and the hooks spaced according to the width of the belts.

Men's belts with tongue buckles may also be stored on hooks. Belts with slide buckles may be hung on a stiff wire rod attached horizontally to the door and extending about a half-inch from the door surface.

When hinged doors are not used, a few belts can be stored on hooks or racks at the end of the closet and in front of the rod. This space may be sufficient for men's belts or for women's extra ones, but many women will require more space for storing all of their belts.

Ties

Tie racks may be fastened to hinged closet doors. They should be located well back from the free edge of the door, or the ties protected by a rod to keep them from swinging into the door closure. Folding tie racks may be attached at the end of the closet. If these racks are placed so that the ties are parallel to the end wall, they will not be crushed by the garments on the rod.

Shoes

Closets are easier to clean when shoes are stored on racks or shelves. Shoe racks may be fastened to hinged closet doors or placed on the floor. Shoe shelves are very convenient when they can be placed on a hinged door. However, in shallow closets 6 inches should be allowed between the shelf and garments on the rod, Figure 6-A. Shelves may also be placed at the end of the

closet under short garments. Placing shoe shelves along the back of the closet makes the shoes less accessible.

Wire loop shoe racks for the door are relatively inexpensive and are easy to install. If the racks are low enough, the shoes may fit under garments on the rod, but when two or more rows of shoes are necessary, extra depth of about 8 inches must be added to the closet, Figure 6-B. An exception to this is found in conventionally-built closets, Figure 6-C; the door is often set out from the inside wall far enough that part of the extra depth is provided by the doorway.

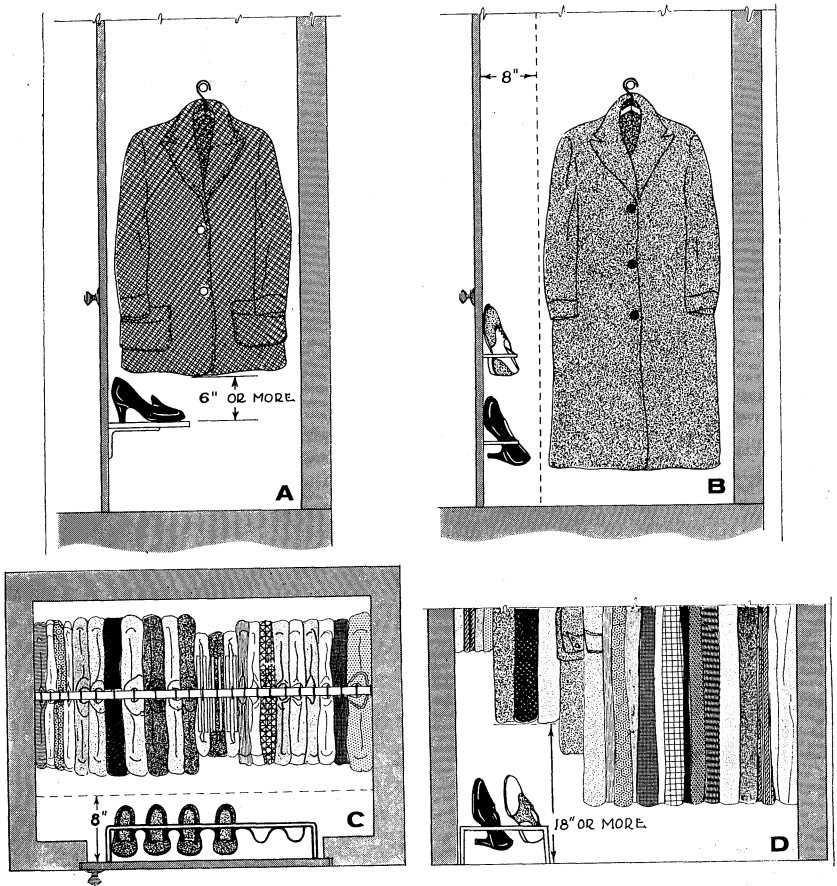


FIGURE 6. Space allowances in rod closet for shoe storage: (A) door shelf, (B) door racks in front of garments on rods, (C) door racks in conventional closet, and (D) movable floor rack.

When door racks are not practical, racks that sit on the floor may be used. Space for such racks is provided below short garments, which must be grouped at one portion of the rod for this purpose, Figure 6-D. Space requirement is determined by type of rack used. One floor rack now available holds nine pairs of women's shoes, and requires a space 18 inches by 18 inches and 15 inches high including shoes. A similar rack for men's shoes holds six pairs and requires a space 18 inches by 18 inches and 17 inches high.

Hats

Hats are usually stored on shelves above the rod. Because of varied hat sizes, space requirements cannot be accurately estimated. Hat boxes for women may be as large as 15 by 15 by 9 inches. Hat shelves 16 inches deep spaced 10 inches apart will accommodate most hat boxes.

Men's hats of ordinary style are 11 to 13 inches wide, 13 to 14½ inches long, and 5 inches high. Western style hats are about 15 inches wide, 16 inches long, and 6 to 7 inches high. Sixteen-inch shelving 8 inches apart will accommodate men's hats.

In Table 9, page 49, are given the space requirements for hats. This table allows space for each woman's and girl's hat in a large hat box. Comparison of shelf lengths in this table with rod lengths in Tables 3 and 4 shows that the shelf requirement for hats is in no case longer than the corresponding rod requirement. When the hats do not entirely fill the shelf, the extra space may be used for storing purses or other fairly large items.

The allowance for each man's and boy's hat is based on a hat with a 2- to 2½-inch brim. The shelf length required for their hats is not greater than the corresponding rod length requirement.

In-use Items

It is usually considered desirable to store on hooks garments such as nightwear that are to be worn again before laundering. Usually two to four hooks per person are sufficient for this purpose. When a closet has two or more hinged doors, hooks may be placed on one door, racks for shoes and belts on the other. The depth allowance of 8 inches for shoes will be more than sufficient for garments hung on the other doors. The allowance for these garments alone should be about 4 inches.

When not used on a door, hooks may be placed at the end of the closet. Space should be allowed for the garments on these hooks. At least 4 inches should be added to length of the closet if hooks are used at one end and 8 inches if used at both ends.

DOORS for ROD CLOSETS

Closet space is most usable when it is visible and accessible. If a closet is open throughout the entire length, garments on the rod are easy to see, to remove, and to put away. When the space above the rod is open to the ceiling and for the full length of the shelving, all the shelf space is usable. However, when the door is 6½ feet high, a box has to go through the door and then up in front of the shelving before being placed on a shelf. Thus the space in front of the shelves must be sufficient to accommodate the width of the box. This requires the person who is placing the box to lean through the doorway and over the garments on the hangers to reach the upper shelves. Such a position is extremely awkward.

Several types of doors are available for closets and each has its advantages. Sliding doors help conserve space in front of the closet, but when they are used the closet can not be opened throughout the entire length at one time. On small closets this is a greater disadvantage than on large ones, since the narrower opening makes it difficult to place bulky items in the closet.

Folding doors save floor space in front of closets and also permit almost full opening of the door space. However, they may require extra closet depth because of their bulk when folded.

Hinged doors require floor space in front of closets. However, if more than one door per closet is used, this space need not be greater than the amount required for the user to stand in front of the closet. When floor space is at a premium, it may be necessary to use narrow doors. For closets up to 4 feet long, two doors may be used; for those 4 to 6 feet long, three doors may be used, and so on, using no more than 2 feet per door. The space that hinged doors provide for racks and hooks is a distinct advantage that in many cases offsets the disadvantage of the swing space they require. It is often wise to make separate doors for the upper and lower part of a closet when hinged doors are used. This is

particularly true when plywood doors are used or when the ceiling is more than 8 feet high. When folding hinged doors are used, the space requirement in front of the closet depends upon the size of the door sections. Hooks and racks cannot be used on these doors.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

It is possible to use two rods, one above the other, for short garments, such as jackets, shirts, blouses, and skirts. However, the higher rod is not always easy to reach. Additional rod space must be provided for long garments when this is done.

In walk-in closets with rods on both sides, it is possible to have two rods, one above the other, on one side and one rod on the other. Walk-in closets, however, require so much floor space that is unavailable for other uses that they cannot be recommended for moderate- and low-cost homes except when they happen to be advantageous in a particular house plan.

If the end of a room can be used as a closet, a saving in construction costs is realized, for the walls of the room serve as the walls of the closet. When only part of the end of a room is used, an end wall must be built. To save floor space, such a wall should be no thicker than is necessary to support door, rod, and shelving.

SUMMARY

The usefulness and adequacy of a closet depend to a great extent on correct dimensions. Depth, measured on the inside from front to back, should never be less than 24 inches. Depths of 24 to 28 inches are recommended for garments other than coats. Coat closets should be 26 to 30 inches deep. The 30-inch depth is recommended for women's coats with large cuffs.

Height of the rod is determined by adding 6 inches to the height required by the longest garment. The rod height for a child's clothes should be adjustable from his or her present needs to those of an adult. The length of the rod should be determined by the user's greatest expected need.

Shelving, hooks, and special racks in the rod closet add to its convenience by providing space for storing hats, shoes, ties,

belts, and other items. Hinged doors provide space for some of these storage devices and permit the front of the closet to be opened fully.

It is wise to plan bedroom closet space to meet the requirements of the person who is to use it, but tables showing general rod length requirements are given. These show the space required for each type of garment for each individual. The requirements are estimated on a lifetime basis. For homes with unassigned bedrooms, the rod allowance for the minimum level of ownership should be 3 to 3½ feet per person; for the moderate level, 4 to 4½ feet per person; and for the liberal level, 4½ to 5½ feet per person. This is true when the men do not hang dress shirts on hangers. When men hang all their shirts and their work pants, the liberal rod length requirement increases to about 5½ to 6½ feet per person.

The information in Tables 3 and 4 has been put into illustrations that follow on pages 20 through 43. Each represents a rod closet for one person. Storage for shoes, hats, and accessories is included in these illustrations. It is not to be assumed that the arrangements and facilities shown are the only ones possible. Rather, a variety of possibilities at different cost levels is included. Racks, shelves, and hanging devices may be considered more or less interchangeable.

The minimum rod lengths in these illustrations are quite small and accommodate very few garments. The liberal rod lengths do not include space for wraps or men's dress shirts. It is not expected that the lengths will be followed to the inch, but that the user will select the next higher dimension that fits into the general house plan.

Fig. 7

MAN'S ROD CLOSET
*Minimum number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
1	Overcoat.....	2½	3 pr.	Shoes	Low shelves
1	Suit.....	3	2	Hats	Shelf over rod
3	Trousers.....	4½	*	Ties	Rod on door
1	Jacket.....	2	*	Belts	Hooks on door
4	Work shirts.....	6			
4	Work pants.....	9			
	TOTAL ROD LENGTH....	27			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 27 inches should be **increased** 6 inches if dress shirts (4) are to be added.

Closet depth of 26 inches is the minimum that should be used when overcoat is to be stored.

Rod height is 58 inches, 52 inches to hang coat plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 61 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 8 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

Shoe shelves are 12 inches deep and placed at heights of 8 and 16 inches from floor.

Rods for ties may be made from wire.

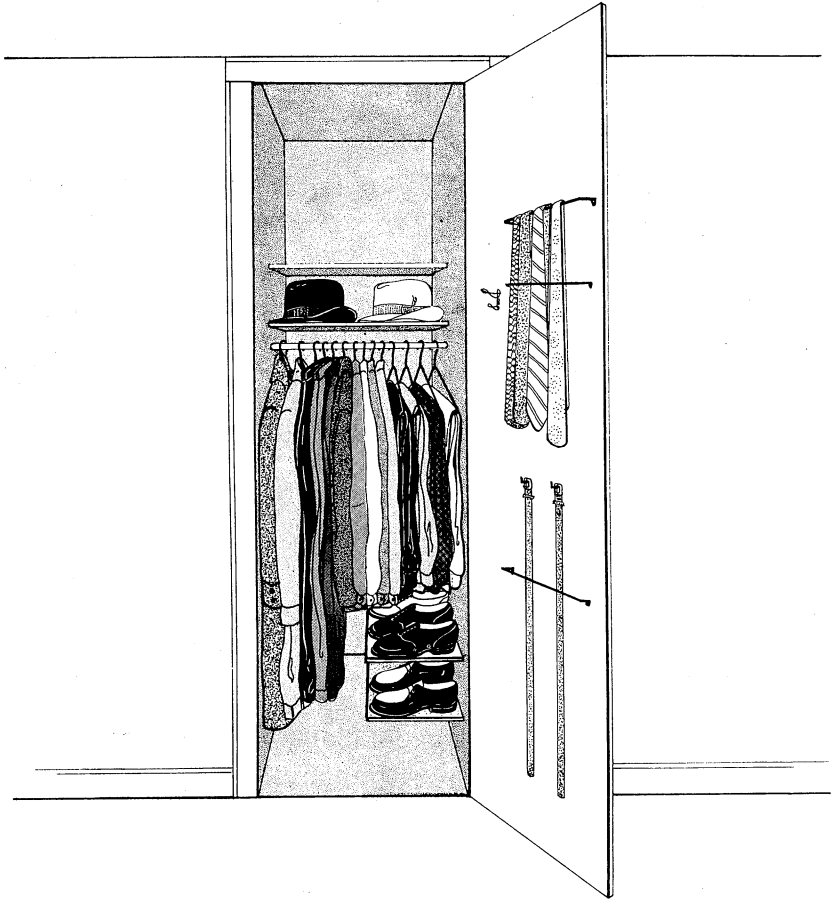


FIGURE 7

Fig. 8

WOMAN'S ROD CLOSET
*Minimum number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
4	Blouses.....	4	4 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
4	Skirts.....	4	2	Hats	Shelf over rod
1	Suit.....	2½	*	Belts	Hooks on door
1	Good coat.....	3½	*	Gar- ments	
6	Good dresses.....	12			
6	House dresses.....	10½		in use	Hooks on door
1	Robe.....	2			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH....		38½			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length is 39 inches.

Closet depth of 28 inches is required for storing the coat.

Rod height is 60 inches, 54 inches to hang robe plus 6 inches for dusting the floor.

Height of the hat shelf is 63 inches. Space between this shelf and the next is 10 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

Shoe rack may be moved for cleaning floor.

Belts are hung on L-hooks. A wire rod placed about a foot below hooks keeps the belts from swinging out when the door is closed.

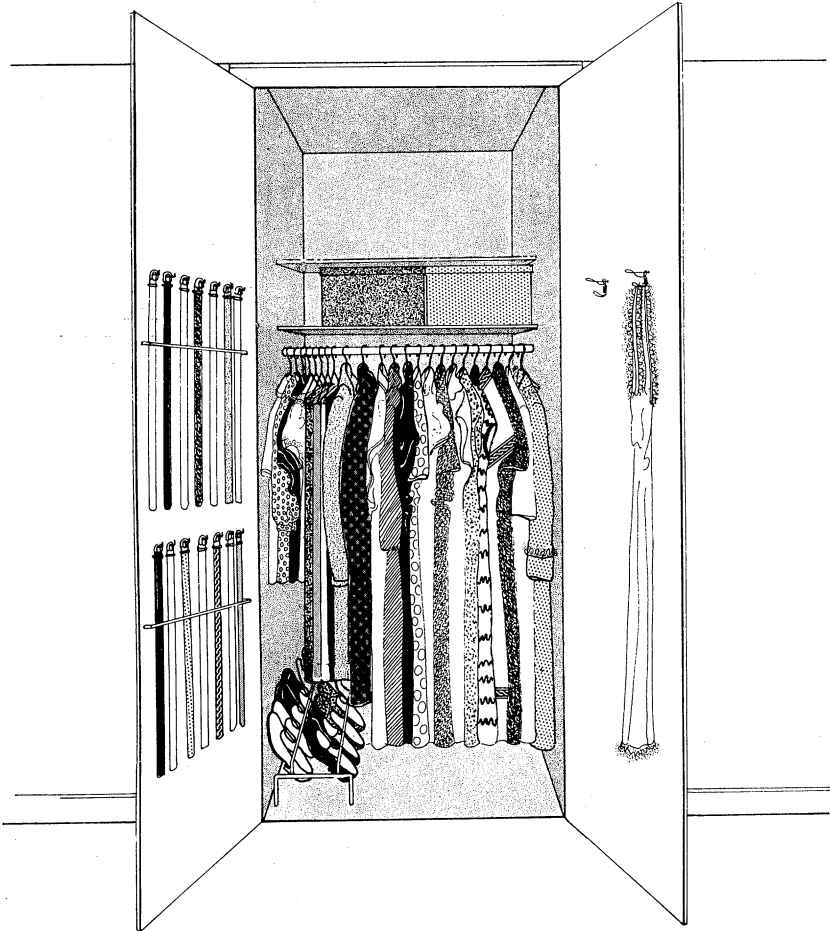


FIGURE 8

Fig. 9

BOY'S ROD CLOSET
*Minimum number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
1	Overcoat.....	2½	3 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
2	Suits.....	6	1	Hat	Shelf over rod
3	Trousers.....	4½	*	Ties	Rod on door
1	Jacket.....	2	*	Belts	Hooks on door
1	Sweater.....	1			
1	Wool shirt.....	1½			
4	Work shirts.....	6			
4	Work pants.....	9			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH ...		32½			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 33 inches should be **increased 6 inches** if dress shirts (4) are to be added.

Closet depth of 26 inches is the minimum that should be used when overcoat is to be stored.

Rod height is 58 inches, 52 inches to hang coat plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 61 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 8 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of upper shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

This closet is planned for the young man who is still at home. **For a younger boy**, the rod should be lowered to a suitable height and a shelf placed 2½ inches above it. The hooks and the tie rod should also be lowered.

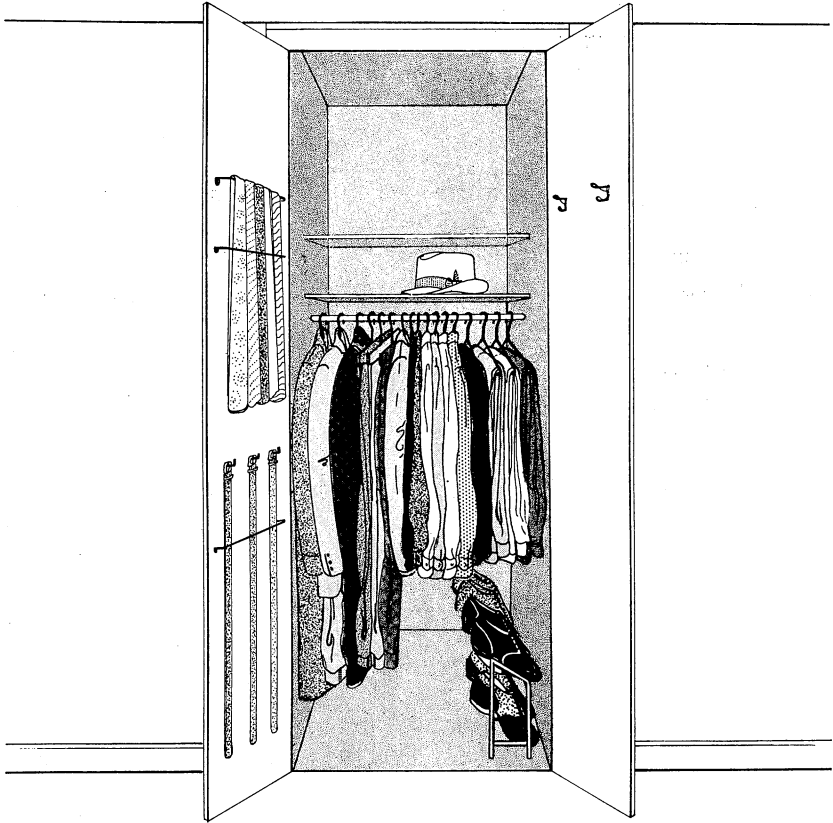


FIGURE 9

Fig. 10

GIRL'S ROD CLOSET
*Minimum number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
4	Blouses.....	4	4 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
4	Skirts.....	4	*	Belts	Hooks on door
1	Suit.....	2½	*	Gar- ments	
1	Good coat.....	3½			
6	Good dresses.....	12		in use	Hooks on door
4	House dresses.....	7			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH....		33			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length is 33 inches.

Closet depth of 28 inches is required for storing the coat.

Rod height is 59 inches, 53 inches to hang dresses plus 6 inches for dusting the floor.

Height of shelf over rod is 62 inches. Girls with minimum clothing inventories do not usually own hats, but if a hat box is stored, 10 inches should be allowed between this shelf and the next. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of shelves shown is 16 inches, but depth should be planned according to items stored.

Shoe rack is removable for cleaning floor.

This closet is planned for an older teen-age girl. **For a younger girl**, the rod should be lowered to a suitable height, and a shelf placed 2½ inches above it. The hooks should also be lowered.

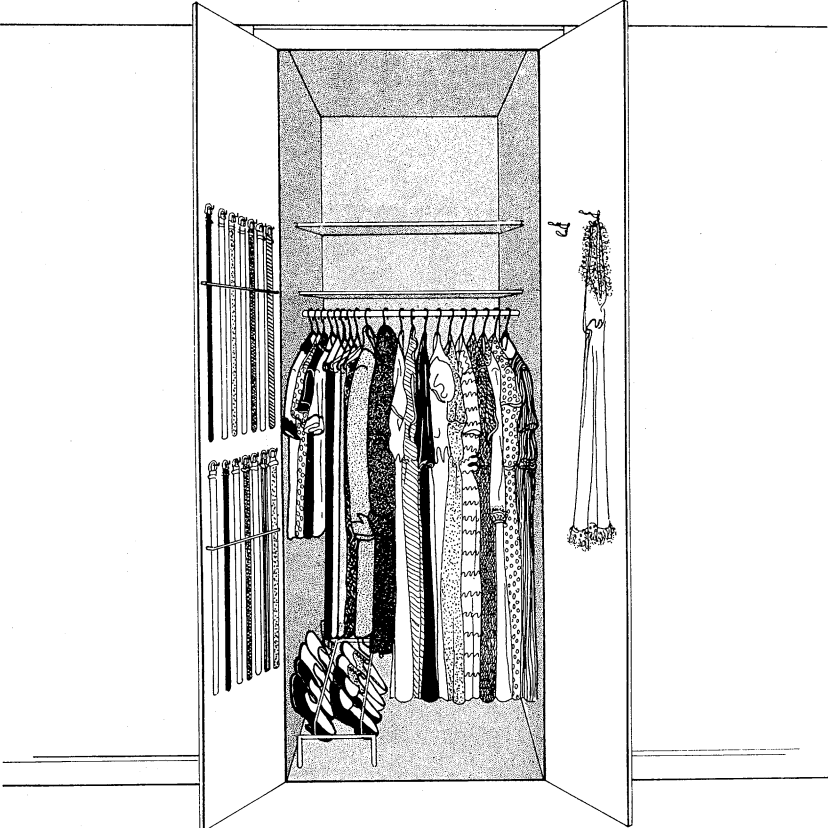


FIGURE 10

Fig. 11

MAN'S ROD CLOSET
*Moderate number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
1	Overcoat.....	2½	6 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
2	Suits.....	6	2	Hats	Shelf over rod
4	Trousers.....	6	*	Ties	Rod on door
2	Jackets.....	4	*	Belts	Hooks on door
1	Sweater.....	1	*	Gar-	
1	Wool shirt.....	1½		ments	
6	Work shirts.....	9		in use	Hooks on door
6	Work pants.....	13½			
	TOTAL ROD LENGTH....	43½			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 44 inches should be **increased** 9 inches if dress shirts (6) are to be added.

Closet depth of 28 inches is ample for storing the overcoat.

Rod height is 58 inches, 52 inches to hang coat plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 61 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 8 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

Shoe rack may be moved for cleaning the floor.

Ties may be stored on towel rods.



FIGURE 11

Fig. 12

WOMAN'S ROD CLOSET
*Moderate number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
4	Blouses.....	4	6 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
1	Jacket.....	2	3	Hats	Shelf over rod
4	Skirts.....	4	*	Belts	Hooks on door
2	Suits.....	5	*	Gar- ments	
2	Good coats.....	7		in use	Hooks on door
8	Good dresses.....	16			
8	House dresses.....	14			
1	Robe.....	2			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH ...		54			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length is 54 inches.

Closet depth of 28 inches is required for storing coats.

Rod height is 60 inches, 54 inches to hang robe plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 63 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 10 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

Shoe rack is removable for cleaning floor.

Belts are hung on cup hooks. Rods placed about a foot below hooks keep belts from swinging out when door is closed.

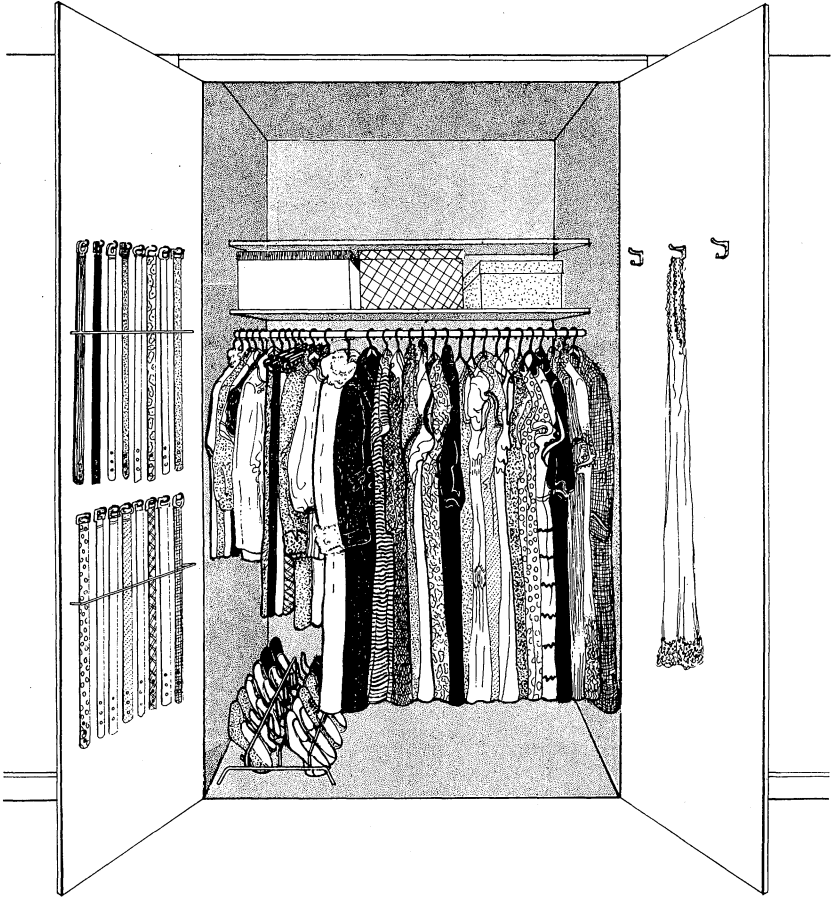


FIGURE 12

Fig. 13

BOY'S ROD CLOSET
*Moderate number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
1	Overcoat.....	2½	4 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
3	Suits.....	9	2	Hats	Shelf over rod
4	Trousers.....	6	*	Ties	Rod on door
2	Jackets.....	4	*	Belts	Hooks on door
2	Sweaters.....	2	*	Gar- ments	
2	Wool shirts.....	3			
6	Work shirts.....	9		in use	Hooks on door
6	Work pants.....	13½			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH ...		49			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 49 inches should be **increased 9 inches** if dress shirts (6) are to be added.

Closet depth of 28 inches is ample for the overcoat.

Rod height is 58 inches, 52 inches to hang overcoat plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 61 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 8 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

This closet is planned for the young man who is still at home. **For a younger boy**, the rod should be lowered to a suitable height and a shelf placed 2½ inches above it. The hooks and tie rod should also be lowered.

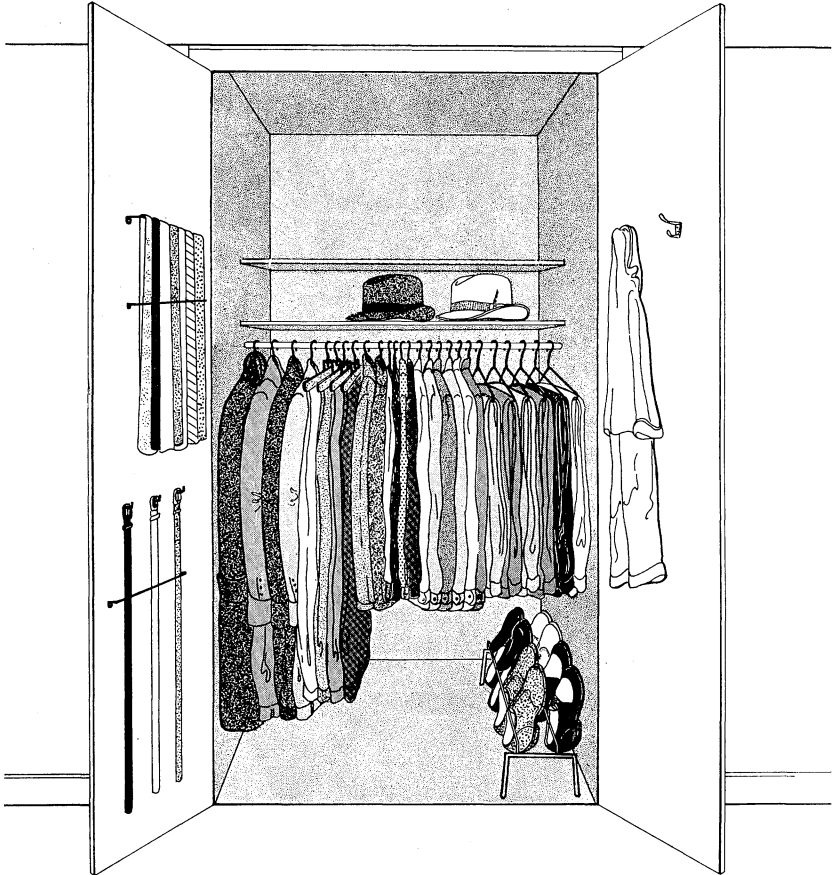


FIGURE 13

Fig. 14

GIRL'S ROD CLOSET
*Moderate number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
6	Blouses.....	6	4 pr.	Shoes	Racks on wall
1	Jacket.....	2	2	Hats	Shelf over rod
6	Skirts.....	6	*	Belts	Hooks on door
2	Suits.....	5	*	Gar- ments	
2	Good coats.....	7		in use	Hooks on door
6	House dresses.....	10½			
8	Good dresses.....	16			
1	Robe.....	2			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH ...		54½			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length is 55 inches.

Closet depth of 28 inches is required for storing coats.

Rod height is 60 inches, 54 inches to hang robe plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 63 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 10 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

Shoe racks are attached at heights of 9 and 22 inches.

This closet is planned for an older teen-age girl. **For a younger girl**, the rod should be lowered to a suitable height and a shelf placed 2½ inches above it. The hooks should also be lowered.

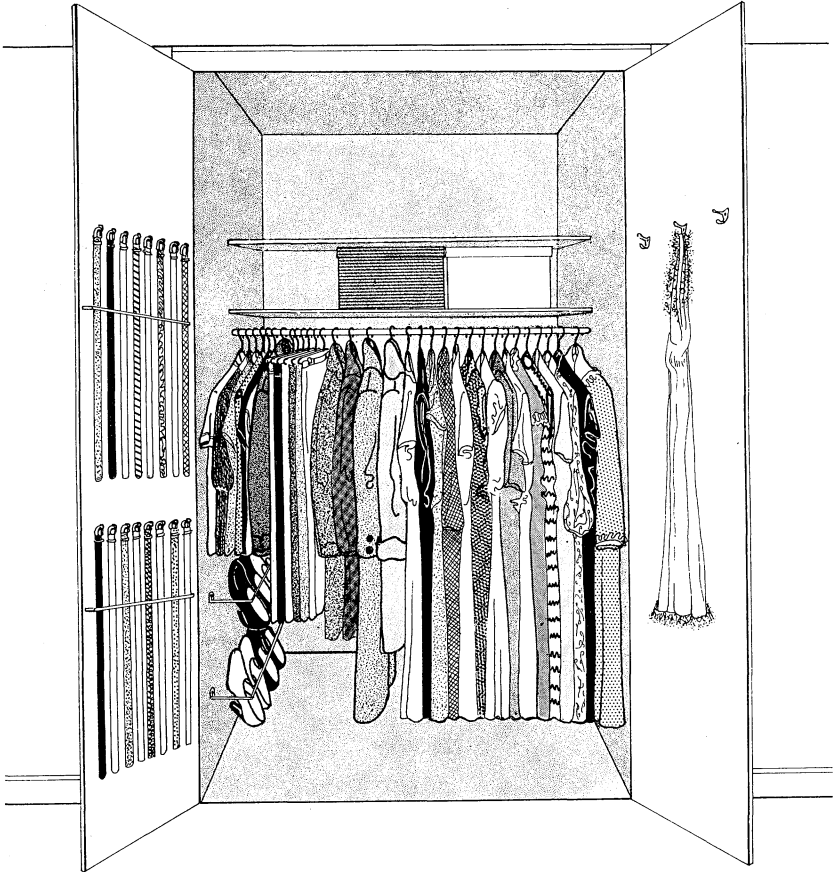


FIGURE 14

Fig. 15

MAN'S ROD CLOSET
*Liberal number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
1	Robe.....	2	8 pr.	Shoes	Racks on door
4	Suits.....	12	2	Hats	Shelf over rod
5	Trousers.....	7½	*	Ties	Rack on door
2	Jackets.....	4	*	Belts	Hooks on door
1	Sweater.....	1			
2	Wool shirts.....	3			
8	Work shirts.....	12			
10	Work pants.....	22½			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH ...		64			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 64 inches should be **increased** 12 inches if dress shirts (8) are to be added. Space for overcoat is not included.

Closet depth of 34 inches allows 8 inches for the shoe rack and 26 inches for garments on the rod. (No overcoat is included.) Placing the rack on the door makes the shoes accessible but adds to the floor space requirement.

Rod height is 60 inches, 54 inches to hang robe plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 63 inches. The space between this shelf and the next one is 8 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

Shoe racks are placed at heights of 10, 23, 36, and 49 inches from bottom of door.

Three doors are used. The center one (not shown) has hooks for hanging garments in use.

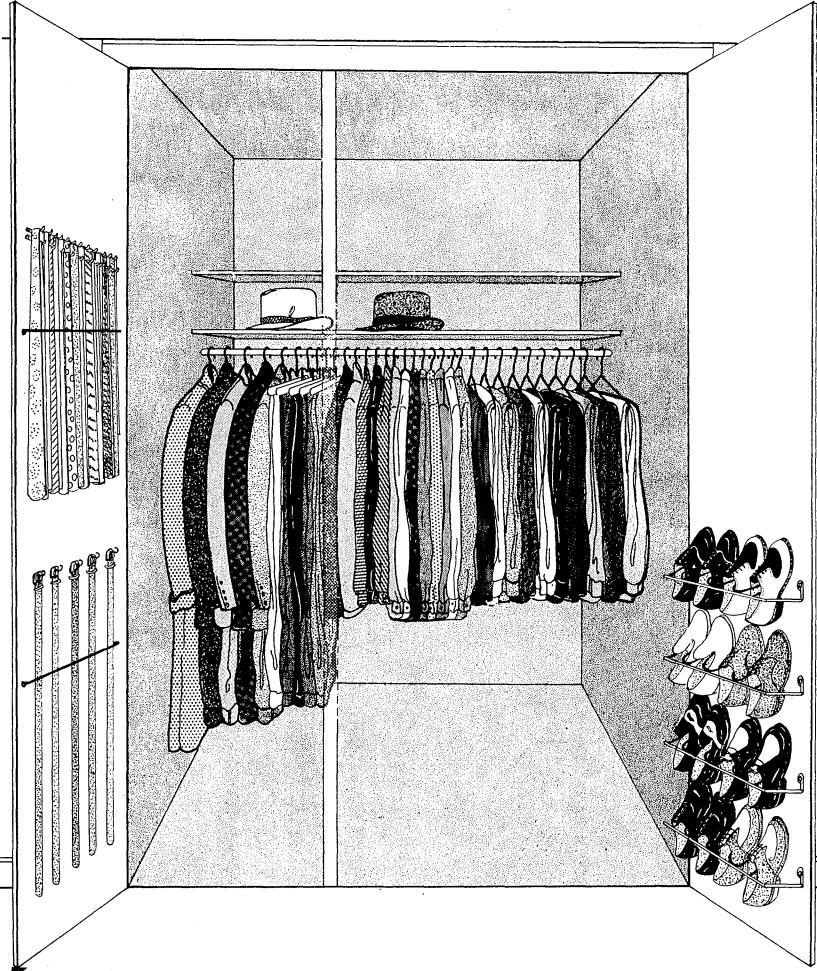


FIGURE 15

Fig. 16

WOMAN'S ROD CLOSET
*Liberal number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
3	Suits.....	7½	6 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
4	Skirts.....	4	4	Hats	Shelf over rod
2	Jackets.....	4	*	Belts	Hooks on door
6	Blouses.....	6	*	Gar- ments	
10	Good dresses.....	20			
10	House dresses.....	17½		in use	Hooks on door
2	Robes.....	4			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH...		63			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 63 inches does not provide space for coats.

Closet depth of 28 inches is liberal since no coat is stored.

Rod height is 60 inches, 54 inches to hang robe plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 63 inches. The space between this shelf and the next one is 10 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

Belts are hung on cup hooks. A rod 12 inches below hooks keeps the belts from swinging out when the door is closed.

A closet as long as this may require three doors. Two doors, each 22 inches wide, are shown. The third door, not shown, is 17 inches wide.

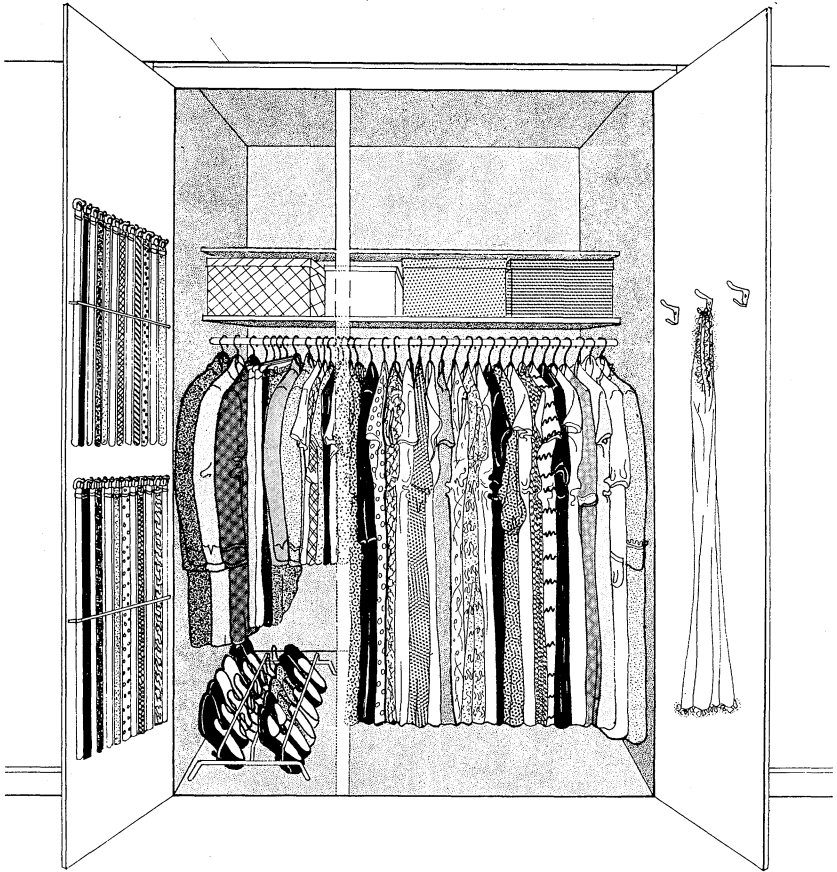


FIGURE 16

Fig. 17

BOY'S ROD CLOSET
*Liberal number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
1	Robe.....	2	8 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
3	Suits.....	9	2	Hats	Shelf over rod
6	Trousers.....	9	*	Ties	Rack on door
2	Jackets.....	4	*	Belts	Hooks on door
2	Sweaters.....	2	*	Gar-	
2	Wool shirts.....	3		ments	
6	Work shirts.....	9		in use	Hooks on door
6	Work pants.....	13½			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH ...		51½			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 52 inches should be **increased** 12 inches if dress shirts (8) are to be added.

Closet depth of 28 inches is liberal since no overcoat is stored.

Rod height is 60 inches, 54 inches to hang robe plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 63 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 8 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Depth of other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

This closet is planned to fit the needs of the young man who is still at home. **For a younger boy**, the rod should be lowered to a suitable height, and a shelf placed 2½ inches above it. The hooks and tie rack should also be lowered.

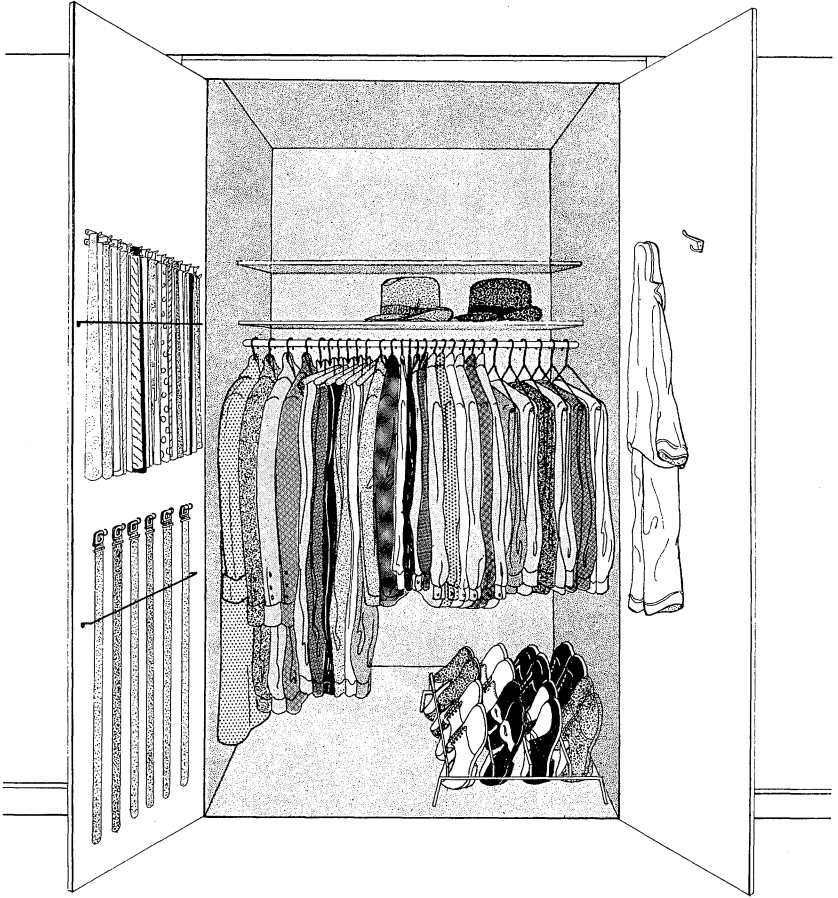


FIGURE 17

Fig. 18

GIRL'S ROD CLOSET
*Liberal number
of garments*

GARMENTS ON ROD		ROD LENGTH REQUIRED	OTHER ITEMS STORED		FACILITY AND LOCATION
No.	Kind	Inches	No.	Kind	
7	Blouses.....	7	6 pr.	Shoes	Rack on floor
7	Skirts.....	7	3	Hats	Shelf over rod
3	Suits.....	7½	*	Belts	Hooks on door
2	Jackets.....	4	*	Gar- ments	
11	Good dresses.....	22		in use	Hooks on door
8	House dresses.....	14			
2	Robes.....	4			
TOTAL ROD LENGTH ...		65½			

* Number not specified.

Total rod length of 66 inches does not provide space for coats.

Closet depth of 28 inches is liberal since no coat is stored.

Rod height is 60 inches, 54 inches to hang robe plus 6 inches for dusting floor.

Height of hat shelf is 63 inches. The space between this shelf and the next is 10 inches. Other shelves may be spaced according to needs.

Depth of hat shelf is 16 inches. Other shelves should be planned according to items to be stored.

This closet is planned for an older teen-age girl. **For a younger girl**, the rod should be lowered to a suitable height and a shelf placed 2½ inches above it. Hooks should also be lowered.

A closet this long may require three doors. Two doors, each 23 inches wide, are shown. The third door, not shown, is 16 inches wide.

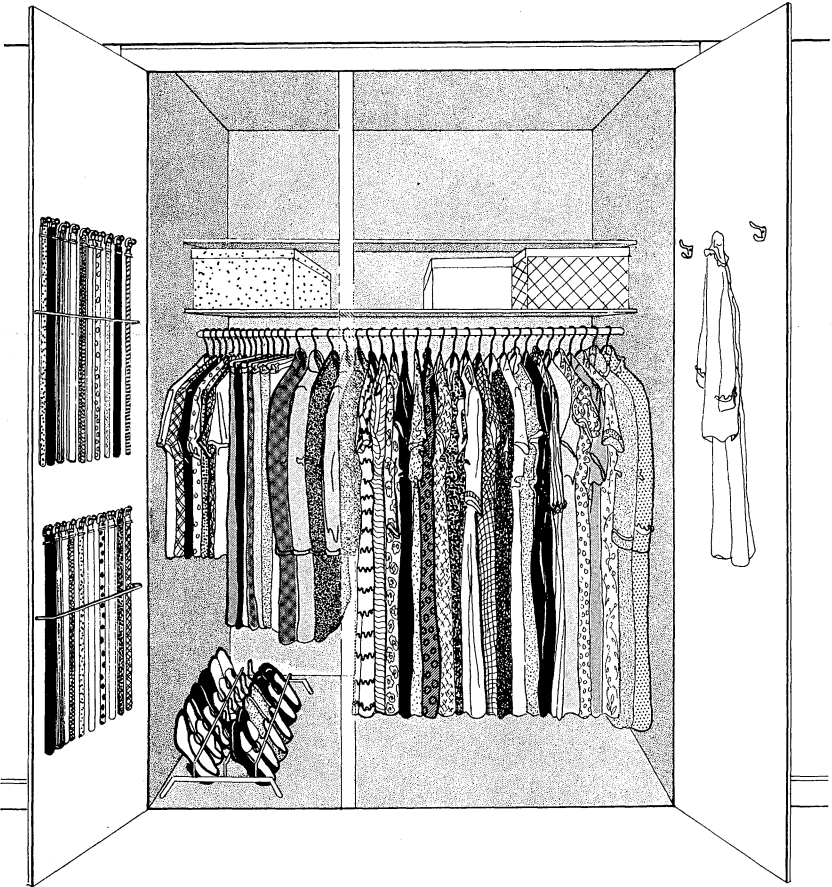


FIGURE 18

TABLE 1. LENGTH OF AVERAGE SIZE GARMENTS FROM TOP OF ROD TO BOTTOM OF GARMENT

Men's garments	Range of lengths	Women's garments	Range of lengths
	<i>Inches</i>		<i>Inches</i>
Suit jackets, other jackets, shirts.....	31-40	Blouses, jackets.....	25-35
Trousers, work pants (folded over hanger).....	29-37	Skirts, medium and short coats.....	31-43
Trousers, work pants (full length).....	47-53	Dresses, long coats, short robes.....	48-55
Overcoats, robes.....	48-54	Long robes, long evening dresses.....	61-68

TABLE 2. ROD LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL GARMENTS

Men's garments	Allowance per garment	Women's garments	Allowance per garment
	<i>Inches</i>		<i>Inches</i>
Work wraps		Work wraps	
Heavy jackets and coats.....	3	Coats and jackets	
Medium weight jackets, coats, and raincoats.....	2	Heavy.....	3
Sweaters, light weight jackets, and raincoats.....	1	Medium.....	2
		Light.....	1
		Sweaters.....	1¼
Work pants		Other garments	
Folded on hanger.....	2¼	Dress coats, winter.....	3½
Hung full length.....	1¾	Robes.....	2
Other garments		Suits, wool (skirt under jacket).....	2½
Topcoats.....	2½	Skirts.....	1
Robes.....	2	Jackets.....	2
Suits (trousers full length under jacket).....	3	Blouses.....	1
Trousers.....	1½	House dresses.....	1¾
Jackets.....	2	Other dresses	
Sweater jackets.....	1	Average.....	2
Shirts (all kinds).....	1½	Full-skirted.....	2½
		Straight-line.....	1¾

TABLE 3. ROD LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTHERN FARM FAMILIES AT THREE LEVELS, MASTER BEDROOM¹

Item	Minimum		Moderate		Liberal	
	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length
	No.	In.	No.	In.	No.	In.
Man's closet						
Overcoats.....	1	2½	1	2½ ²	3 ³	3 ³
Robes.....	0		0	0	1	2
Suits.....	1	3	2	6	4	12
Trousers.....	3	4½	4	6	5	7½
Jackets.....	1	2	2	4	2	4
Dress sweaters.....	0	0	1	1	1	1
Work shirts.....	4	6	6	9	8	12
Wool shirts.....	0	0	1	1½	2	3
Work pants.....	4	9	6	13½	10	22½
TOTAL (man).....		27		43½ ²		64
Woman's closet						
Dress coats.....	1	3½	2	7 ²	3 ³	3 ³
Robes.....	1	2	1	2	2	4
Suits.....	1	2½	2	5	3	7½
Skirts.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Jackets.....	0	0	1	2	2	4
House dresses.....	6	10½	8	14	10	17½
Other dresses.....	6	12	8	16	10	20
Blouses.....	4	4	4	4	6	6
TOTAL (woman).....		38½		54 ²		63
TOTAL (master bedroom)		65½		97½ ²		127

¹ Man's dress shirts, woman's sweaters and evening dresses not included.

² If separate storage for dress wraps is used (Table 6), subtract rod space for overcoat and coats.

³ Store separately; requirements given in Table 6.

TABLE 4. ROD LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTHERN FARM FAMILIES AT THREE LEVELS, CHILDREN'S BEDROOM¹

Item	Minimum		Moderate		Liberal	
	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length
	No.	In.	No.	In.	No.	In.
Boy's closet						
Overcoats.....	1	2½	1	2½ ²	3	3
Robes.....	0	0	0	0	1	2
Suits.....	2	6	3	9	3	9
Trousers.....	3	4½	4	6	6	9
Jackets.....	1	2	2	4	2	4
Dress sweaters.....	1	1	2	2	2	2
Work shirts.....	4	6	6	9	6	9
Wool shirts.....	1	1½	2	3	2	3
Work pants.....	4	9	6	13½	6	13½
TOTAL (boy).....		32½		49 ²		51½
Girl's closet						
Dress coats.....	1	3½	2	7 ²	3	3
Robes.....	0	0	1	2	2	4
Suits.....	1	2½	2	5	3	7½
Skirts.....	4	4	6	6	7	7
Jackets.....	0	0	1	2	2	4
House dresses.....	4	7	6	10½	8	14
Other dresses.....	6	12	8	16	11	22
Blouses.....	4	4	6	6	7	7
TOTAL (girl).....		33		54½ ²		65½

¹ Boy's dress shirts, girl's sweaters and evening dresses not included.

² If separate storage for dress wraps is used (Table 6), subtract rod space for overcoat and coats.

³ Store separately; requirements given in Table 6.

TABLE 5. ROD LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTHERN FARM FAMILIES AT THREE LEVELS, CLOSET FOR EVENING DRESSES

Item	Minimum		Moderate		Liberal	
	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length
	No.	In.	No.	In.	No.	In.
Woman						
Evening dresses.....	0	0	0	0	1	3-12
Girl						
Evening dresses.....	0	0	1	3-12	2-5	24-50
TOTAL ¹				3-12		27-62

¹ Includes space allowance for one woman and one girl. In planning allow space according to number of women and girls in family.

TABLE 6. ROD LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTHERN FARM FAMILIES AT THREE LEVELS, CLOSET FOR WRAPS

Item	Minimum		Moderate		Liberal	
	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length
	No.	In.	No.	In.	No.	In.
WORK AND PLAY WRAPS						
Man						
Coats, jackets, raincoats.....	3	6	4	7	4	7
Sweaters.....	1	1	1	1	2	2
Woman						
Coats, jackets, raincoats.....	2	5	3	6	3	6
Sweaters.....	1	1¼	2	2½	2	2½
Boy						
Coats, jackets, raincoats.....	2	5	3	6	4	7
Sweaters.....	1	1	2	2	6	6
Girl						
Coats, jackets, raincoats.....	2	5	3	6	3	6
Sweaters.....	1	1¼	3	3¾	7	8¾
TOTAL FOR FAMILY OF FOUR ¹	13	25½	21	34¼	31	45¼
DRESS WRAPS						
Man , overcoats.....			1	2½ ²	1	2½
Woman , dress coats.....			2	7 ²	3	10½
Boy , overcoats.....			1	2½ ²	1	2½
Girl , dress coats.....			2	7 ²	3	10½
TOTAL FOR FAMILY OF FOUR ¹				19		26

¹ Includes man, woman, boy, and girl. For families of other composition, use appropriate individual allowances.

² If a special rod unit for dress wraps is used, subtract this amount from the appropriate bedroom rod length in Table 2 or Table 3.

TABLE 7. ROD LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTHERN FARM FAMILIES AT THREE LEVELS, CLOSET FOR SUMMER STORAGE OF WINTER GARMENTS¹

Item	Minimum		Moderate		Liberal	
	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length
	No.	In.	No.	In.	No.	In.
Man						
Overcoats.....	1	2½	1	2½	1	2½
Suits.....	0	0	1	3	2	6
Trousers.....	0	0	2	3	2	3
Jackets.....	0	0	1	2	1	2
TOTAL (man).....		2½		10½		13½
Woman						
Dress coats.....	1	3½	2	7	2	7
Suits.....	1	2½	1	2½	2	5
Skirts.....	2	2	2	2	3	3
Jackets.....	0	0	0	0	1	2
Dresses.....	2	4	2	4	4	8
TOTAL (woman).....		12		15½		25
Boy						
Overcoats.....	1	2½	1	2½	1	2½
Suits.....	0	0	1	3	1	3
Trousers.....	1	1½	2	3	2	3
Jackets.....	1	2	1	2	1	2
TOTAL (boy).....		6		10½		10½
Girl						
Dress coats.....	1	3½	2	7	2	7
Suits.....	1	2½	2	5	2	5
Skirts.....	2	2	4	4	4	4
Jackets.....	0	0	1	2	1	2
Dresses.....	2	4	2	4	4	8
TOTAL (girl).....		12		22		26
TOTAL FOR FAMILY OF FOUR ²		32½		58½		75

¹ Work and play wraps not included; see Table 8.

² Includes man, woman, boy, and girl. For families of other composition, use appropriate individual allowances.

TABLE 8. ROD LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTHERN FARM FAMILIES AT THREE LEVELS, SPACE FOR SUMMER STORAGE WORK WRAPS

Item	Minimum		Moderate		Liberal		
	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length	Items	Rod length	
	No.	In.	No.	In.	No.	In.	
Man							
Coats, jackets, raincoats...	2	5	3	6	3	6	
Sweaters.....	0	0	1	1	2	2	
TOTAL (man).....		5		7		8	
Woman							
Coats, jackets, raincoats...	1	3	2	5	2	5	
Sweaters.....	1	1¼	1	1¼	1	1¼	
TOTAL (woman).....		4¼		6¼		6¼	
Boy							
Coats, jackets, raincoats...	1	3	2	5	3	6	
Sweaters.....	1	1	1	1	2	2	
TOTAL (boy).....		4		6		8	
Girl							
Coats, jackets, raincoats...	1	3	2	5	2	5	
Sweaters.....	1	1¼	2	2½	3	3¾	
TOTAL (girl).....		4¼		7½		8¾	
TOTAL FOR FAMILY OF FOUR ¹			17½		26¾		31

¹ Includes man, woman, boy, and girl. For families of other composition, use appropriate individual allowances.

TABLE 9. SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR DRESS HATS FOR SOUTHERN FARM FAMILIES AT THREE LEVELS (Hats stored one row deep on shelves 16 inches wide)

Family position	Minimum			Moderate			Liberal		
	Hats	Shelf length	Shelf spacing	Hats	Shelf length	Shelf spacing	Hats	Shelf length	Shelf spacing
	No.	In.	In.	No.	In.	In.	No.	In.	In.
Man.....	2	26	8	2	26	8	2	26	8
Woman.....	2	32	10	3	48	10	4	64	10
Boy.....	1	13	8	2	26	8	2	26	8
Girl.....	0	0	0	2	32	10	2	32	10

