

## **BUYING FOR QUALITY (8)**

**The garment or fabric you purchased should be able to withstand normal wear and be able to be drycleaned or washed successfully. Unfortunately, some manufacturers and designers will sell garments with concentration on styling and do not properly pre-test their garments for serviceability. As a result, consumers suffer through wearing garments that may pill, shrink, pucker, stretch and fade. The following guidelines should be helpful to you when purchasing a garment.**

### **SUITS**

**Puckering-Check the front of the jacket for any puckering. The front of the jacket is usually fused or glued to a backing fabric. If puckering is noticed you can expect limited wear since puckering will become progressively worse during wear.**

**Collar-Check the back of the collar to see if the collar lining is showing. If the collar lining is showing it means that it has shrunk and can rarely be rectified.**

**Shoulder Area-If the shoulder area is puckering it means tight stitching.**

**Double Creases-If double creases are noticed the problem can not be corrected, especially if the garment consists of polyester.**

**Pilling-Pilling is a yarn weakness due to the manufacturers' use of short staple fibers. The condition of pilling will be accentuated in the course of normal wear and routine cleaning.**

**Alterations-If the garment has to be lengthened it is most likely the previous crease line cannot be removed if the garment is made with polyester or nylon.**

### **DRESSES**

**Trimming-Check for any loose beading and other loose trimming. Beading and trimming are usually chain stitched which means a broken thread will result in all the trimming unraveling.**

**Pleats-Check for impressions on the pleats and misaligned pleats.**

**Velvets-You should avoid purchasing acetate velvet. Once water and pressure contacts the velvet it flattens the velvet pile and cannot be corrected. This can occur even from spillage of ordinary drinking water.**

**Fading-Many types of fabrics can fade even when only hanging on a store rack. This is especially common with many silk and acetate fabrics. You should carefully**

**observe the shoulder area of the garment and compare it with the color of an unexposed area of the garment.**

**Shine-Shine is caused from hard pressing of the garment. Check the seams, pocket area and other areas of double thickness.**