

1860-1870 Fashions

Godey's Lady's Book, alternatively known as Godey's Magazine and Lady's Book, was a United States magazine published in Philadelphia and popular among women during the 19th century. In the 1860s Godey's considered itself the "queen of monthlies".

Gowns

Skirts reached ultimate width by early 1860, and by 1862 were less bell-shaped, flatter in front and bustled out in back. Sleeve were wide, belle-shaped (pagoda) and worn over undersleeves. Necklines were high with lace or tatted collars, or with chemisettes (v-shaped inserts covering cleavage).



Evening dresses were less demure than day dresses, and had low necklines and short sleeves and were worn over large crinolines at balls and weddings. Ladies wore short gloves or fingerless mitts made of lace or crocheted.



Bodices and skirts separate pieces and interchangeable, long-sleeved and high-necked for afternoon and short-sleeved and low-necked for evening.

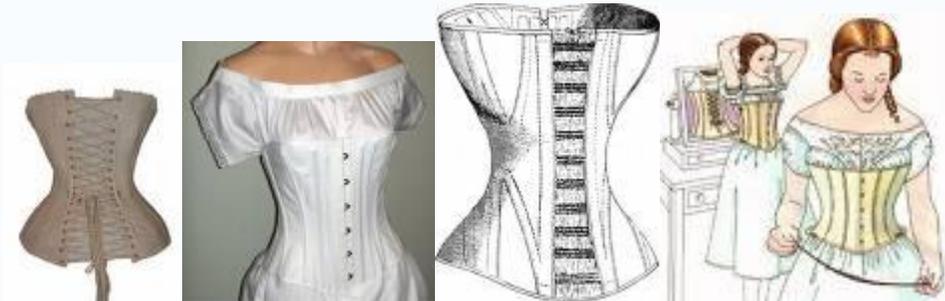
By the 1870s, sleeves narrowed and hoops decrease in size. Overskirts looped up to reveal underskirts, which later led to the bustle.



To accommodate the full skirts, women wore square shawls, folded into triangles, or they wore three-quarter length capes or hip-length jackets.



Corsets, reinforced with strips of leather and whalebone, were tied tightly to place emphasis on the waist and hips.



Hair was worn parted in the middle and smoothed, waved, or poofed over the ears, then braided or "turned up" and pinned into roll or low bun at the back of the neck. Such styling was usually maintained by the use of hair oils and pomades.



Styled hair was often further confined in decorative hairnets ("snoods"), especially by younger women.



snood

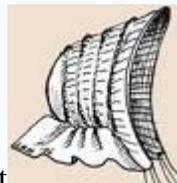
Bonnets had small brims that revealed the face. Earlier bonnets of the decade had lower brims. However, by mid-century Spoon Bonnets, which featured increasingly high brims and more elaborate trimmings, became the vogue.



Other less common variants, such as the Marie Stuart Bonnet, with its heart-shaped brim, and the



fanchon bonnet



, with its very short brim and back curtain, made appearances in the realm of fashionable headwear.



In cold weather, bonnets were made of straw, woven horsehair, or gathered net. Heavier materials like velvet were favored for winter bonnets, though quilted winter hoods were much more practical and warm.

Bonnets had two sets of ties--one to tie and one more decorative of silk or satin that were tied below the chin or left untied.

Bonnets fell out of fashion over the decade in favor of small hats.

Men's Fashion



Parisian composers: The Circle of the Rue Royale, 1868.

Men's fashion of the 1860s remained much the same as in the previous decade.

Shirts of linen or cotton featured high upstanding or turnover collars, and neckties grew wider and were tied in a bow or looped into a loose knot and fastened with a stickpin. Heavy padded and fitted frock coats, now usually single-breasted and knee length, were worn for business occasions, over waistcoats or vests with lapels and notched collars. Waistcoats were generally cut straight across the front and had lapels.

The loosely fitted, mid-thigh length *sack coat* continued to slowly displace the frock coat for less-formal business occasions.

The slightly cutaway morning coat was worn for formal day occasions.



The most formal evening dress remained a dark tail coat and trousers, with a white cravat;



this costume was well on its way to crystallizing into the modern "white tie and tails".

Full-length trousers were worn, generally of a contrasting fabric. Costumes consisting of a coat, waistcoat and trousers of the same fabric remained a novelty at this time.

Overcoats had wide lapels and deep cuffs, and often featured contrasting velvet collars.



Top hats briefly became the very tall "stovepipe" shape, but a variety of other hat shapes were popular.

Children's Fashion



Both boys and girls wore skirts from the time they could walk until they reached age 5 or 6. Very small girls wore their skirts just below knee-length over pantalettes.



Skirts were longer as girls grew up until they reached floor length at coming-out (in their later teens). Older girls wore hoops to hold out their skirts. Young girls wore washable



pinafores over their dresses for work and play to keep them clean.

Boys wore simple jackets and trousers.

