

how to get fit

Usually we get very afraid when someone approaches our crotch with a tape measure. Unless it's a tailor. A tailor is the one man who can help you fool the world into thinking you're taller, smarter, and better looking than you actually are. Chris Pamboukas, manager of Nordstrom's tailor shops, told us how to get the best from the guy poking around your inseam.

1. "When you have a suit tailored, wear a dress shirt and tie, a belt or braces, and dress shoes with the correct height heel. You'd be surprised how many men show up for fittings in cowboy boots or running shoes," says Pamboukas. Or, in parts of San Francisco, one of each.

2. When buying a suit, make sure the collar hugs your neck, the lapels lie flat on your chest, and the armholes allow enough room for movement. A jacket

can be tailored to a perfect fit if these three areas fit properly from the beginning.

3. Don't buy pants several inches too large in the waist, even if your tailor thinks he can cut to fit. Pants more than 6 inches too large involve a recut, which means removing the waistband and zipper and recutting the fabric. And that's detailed work that can get expensive and requires a highly skilled tailor.

4. Don't donate that quality suit just because the current style has changed. A good tailor can give it a makeover, closing a jacket vent or tapering the legs.

5. If you've gained weight, you can let out pants up to 2 inches in the waist, and a jacket can be restructured to give you another 1 1/4 inches around the middle. You can let the pants in once you lose weight, but that hasn't happened to us in years. —K.C.



the new soft shoe

Soft shoes make for easier packing, but make sure they look good with the clothes you take. At right, we offer three pairs with rubber soles and soft suede or leather uppers that will spring back into shape at journey's end. All are comfortable enough to wear sight-seeing or, should your wife demand it, having sex on the lido deck. —K.C.



FAR LEFT: Cole-Haan.
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
Cole-Haan,
Mephisto,
Salvatore
Ferragamo.

