



My wife. Our patient.

View the story. unchealthcare.org



UNC
HEALTH CARE

5:37 pm ·
6-9-09

72°

Tonight's



Triangle 411 Autos Classifieds Jobs Real Estate Shop WRAL WRAL-TV Log In

Home News **Traffic** **Weather** Sports Business 5 On Your Side **Health & Life**

Health Team Family Pets House & Home Dating Travel Food Fitness Video



NASH HEALTH CARE

Tailors have tricks to trim a man's look

By **SAMANTHA CRITCHELL**

AP Fashion Writer

Posted: Today at 3:13 p.m.

PARAMUS, N.J. — Dad probably gave you a lot of advice - some of which you've chosen to ignore. Maybe he tried to regale you with [stories](#) of how things were done in "his day."

Did he ever mention trips to the tailor?

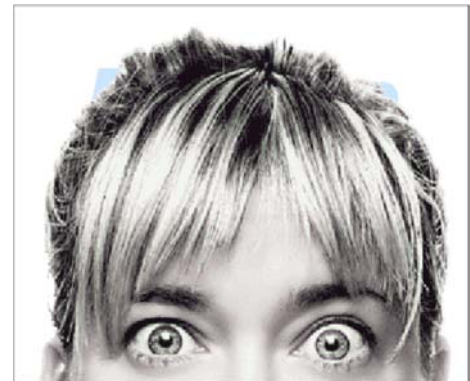
Working with a tailor to retrofit both old and new clothes was once considered commonplace, especially for men who wanted sleeve lengths adjusted on suit jackets, trousers taken in or let out as their weight fluctuated, and fabric tears on their favorite garments repaired.

But then came fast fashion: You buy what you need for that moment in whatever size you are at the time, with no consideration of longevity. Once there's a rip or the fabric pulls too tight, its service is no longer needed.

Don't be surprised, though, if the pendulum swings back toward the tailor, a service often offered by retailers for a small fee, and sometimes for free. The fashion industry says consumers are showing a greater interest in timeless styles and well-made investment pieces, and if you are going to have clothes for a long time, you may as well make sure they fit properly.

And you may look a little trimmer in the process.

"Fit is as important as any other element - design, feel, fabric," says Tom Nevell, men's retail [director](#) for Nordstrom. "A traditional customer can look updated instantly by getting a well-fit



Blood Pressure Above 160?

Explore an Advanced Blood Pressure Therapy

Now in Clinical Trials

CVRx[®]

top-voted stories

- (55 votes) [n.c. state fires mary easley](#)
- (37 votes) [four critically burned in slim jim plant explosion, roof collapse](#)
- (27 votes) [e-mail: easley involved in wife's hiring](#)
- (23 votes) [n.c. house tax package would raise \\$940m more](#)
- (20 votes) [n.c. gasoline tax change gets final legislative ok](#)
- (15 votes) [n.c. man sentenced to prison for threatening obama](#)
- (14 votes) [n.c. house democrats take heat from both sides](#)
- (13 votes) [cary man killed in raleigh train wreck](#)
- (10 votes) [raleigh banker accused of defrauding investors](#)
- (10 votes) [nashville school fights recorded, posted on youtube](#)



FEATURED PICKS

1. Backyard Bistro Raleigh

slimmer-cut suit and he might look 20 pounds lighter."

"People come into the store saying they're an extra large, and even if they know they're not an extra large, they say it's for comfort, but you get comfortable with a slimmer silhouette as soon as you see it in the mirror," he says.

The modern fit in menswear is a European cut that Nevell dubs "the Italian hug - it pinches a little at the arm and chest area but you can still move around."

Nevell says one of the easiest and most effective nips-and-tucks is eliminating a cuff on a pant. Removing a cuff on a flat-front pant, which is easy to do, gives a sleeker, leaner look, he says. If you prefer a pleated pant, then you'd want a cuff because it adds weight to the bottom of the pant, pulling the pleat for a better drape, but that's a look best worn by tall men.

Tom Julian, a [fashion trend](#) analyst who wrote "The Nordstrom Guide to Men's Style" for Chronicle Books, knows from years of experience that he personally needs to buy jackets with broader shoulders than his usual small-size shirt would suggest. That means the cuffs and hem always need to be shortened, and so does the collar roll or he'd get the bump that many men have at the top of the back.

Some shoppers, especially those who still dress up for work, do make use of tailors for their suits (and some more expensive suits are actually left undone on store racks for a tailor to finish once the customer has been fitted), but it's rare for anyone to bother with alterations for their [casual clothes](#).

Nevell wishes they did. "Jeans can be tailored - anything that matters how it fits should be tailored."

Don't worry, he assures, if it's the hem of the jeans you [love](#), it'll still be there when the tailor is done. The fabric will come from elsewhere on the leg and the cool detailed hem will be reattached and no one will be the wiser.

Other tailor tricks including letting out the "seat" of trousers, which is probably why your pockets are pulling, and customizing a boxy button-down shirt, narrowing the appearance of your torso.

If you're looking for a quality garment, worth an investment and subsequent alterations, Julian suggests checking for these signs of craftsmanship:

-Look at the lining. "The lining should look beautiful, just as good as the outside. There should be no threads hanging."

-Test the buttonholes. They should be fully functional, even on jacket sleeves. You might not ever use them, but they're a signal

2. **Raleigh Road Outdoor Theatre**
Henderson

3. **SunTrust Broadway Series at the DPAC**
Durham

4. **Knights of the Black Flag**

5. **Workboats of Core Sound and On Earth's Furrowed Brow**

[Find more to do](#)

Exclusive Online Phone Offers-Verizon Wireless
Lake Gaston-Many Choices! Good Prices! Low Rates!
Save up to 10% on TERMINIX Home Termite Service
Certified Mercedes-Benz @ Very Low Interest Rates
Get instant curb appeal with New Siding & Windows

ADVERTISEMENT



A More Affordable Option than Buying a New Car



The Secret to Getting Highly Discounted Cruise Tickets



Funny resume bloopers, but don't let this happen to you

Links We Like

[The Little Things Get You Promoted](#)



In the workplace it's the little things that get you noticed and help you stand out above the rest. [More Details](#)

[Learn The Signs Of Depression And Anxiety](#)



Learn the top five signs of common mental health conditions, including depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, and bipolar disorder. [More Details](#)

[Six Steps To A Successful Vegetable](#)

of a well-made piece.

-Is there a thread knot behind each button? There should be.

Copyright 2009 by The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

SHARE Take WRAL.com to go

Print Friendly | Email to a friend |

Sponsored Links

1 Tip To Lose Your Belly

I Cut Down 3 lbs of Body Fat Per Week by Obeying this 1 Simple Rule. HelensDiet.com/Secret

1 Fix For Yellow Teeth

As seen on Rachael Ray. Rachael Ray ranked this Teeth Whitener #1! www.best-teeth-whitening.com

Cellulite is Gross!

Read How I Was Able to Get Rid of My Cellulite With a Secret Formula! AmysCelluliteSecret.com

"I'm Happy I Lost My Job"

After I got laid off, I found an easy way to make \$5k a month online. www.RobertsCashBlog.com

0 Comments



Welcome to GOLO, where WRAL.com visitors can comment on stories and create profile pages, blogs and photo galleries.

You must be a registered WRAL.com user to use these tools. [Click here to register or log in.](#)

View Comments

0 **Make this story a GOLO Hot Topic!**
This story is 11 votes short of making the GOLO Hot Topics list.
You must be a registered WRAL.com user to use these tools.
[Click here to register or log in.](#)

LOCAL NEWS

Four critically burned in Slim Jim plant explosion, roof collapse

Updated 7 minutes ago | WATCH

Storms dump rain on ConAgra scene

Updated 1 minute ago | WATCH

Three new H1N1 cases confirmed in Johnston County

Updated 32 minutes ago | WATCH

N.C. House Democrats take heat from both sides

Updated at 4:25 p.m.

Cary man killed in Raleigh train wreck

Updated 27 minutes ago | WATCH

more | RSS

NATION

Suspect in soldier shooting says he was justified

Updated 1 minute ago

Police: 2 teens killed to escape NY group home

Updated 18 minutes ago

Slain Kansas abortion provider's clinic to close

Updated 31 minutes ago

Army closing some special care units

Updated 36 minutes ago

Army Corps orders thousands of trees chopped down

Updated at 4:05 p.m.

more | RSS

[FAQ](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Tools](#) | [RSS Feeds](#) | [Email Alerts](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms Of Use](#) | [Site Map](#)

© 2009, Capitol Broadcasting Company, Inc.