

# sharp tailoring

Accentuate your best features and be confident with a sharp and stylish well crafted suit says tailor **Tom Wharton...**



**Dear Tom, I have broad shoulders but a narrow waist and shirts never seem to fit correctly. What type of shirt should I be looking for?**

This is one of the most common problems. For some strange reason the majority of ready to wear shirts seem to be made so that if you have broad shoulders you automatically have to have a rather wide tummy. The shirt is made so that you appear like a box with no curves or shape. In fact most of the time every shirt that you buy will leave an area of unwanted fabric wafting around your waist like ship in full sail. Not a pretty look.

If you are lucky enough to have broad shoulders and a small waist, the likelihood is that you are quite athletic and well defined in the muscle department, so you want to accentuate these features. Therefore when you come to picking a shirt I would suggest that you have a look for darts that bring the fabric in at the back of the shirt, accentuating your physique and effectively moulding the shirt to your curves. The little darts will make a huge difference to the feel of the shirt and you will be able to move safe in the knowledge that your shirt won't be flapping around your waist and won't pop up and out of your waist band. Just remember, if you are lucky enough to have this body frame, play to your physique; a well crafted shirt will help accentuate all the right bits of your body whilst hiding your less flattering areas.



**WITH TOM WHARTON**

Tom Wharton started his tailoring career in London with Bond Street tailors Hurst and Banks. Spotting a gap in the market Tom set up his own tailoring company, Barrington Ayre, last year. Tom Wharton can be contacted at Barrington Ayre on 0845 3009014 or 07511 794702; info@barringtonayre.co.uk; www.barringtonayre.co.uk

**Dear Tom, I'd like to have a tailored suit made for a sleek look but don't know what sort of thing to ask for or how many buttons I should have.**

A sleek fitting suit is one of the ultimate pieces of clothing you could ever own. There is nothing better on any gentleman than a slender fitting, well cut suit. Crisp lines and the beautifully crafted English wool fabrics really do highlight every joyful aspect of a tailored suit. If you are slender figured, make sure that you allow the suit to follow your body. Have the suit follow your

waist in above your hips, let your arms follow into non-padded, closely fitting shoulders and let your trousers stay flat, without pleats, dropping directly into straight finished bottoms by your shoes. Think Michael Caine in Alfie. Sleek, sharp and stylish. If you are a slightly larger gentleman, don't despair. With the right cut of tailored suit you too can walk with an air of confidence. The likelihood is that if you are slightly more portly, off-the-peg suits never fit quite right around your top half. A finely fitted tailor made suit will subtly move the balance of the fabric and cut so that when you are standing straight the jacket bottom is always horizontal to the floor. This will alleviate any tugging around the shoulder area and prevent ruffling, leaving you feeling sleek, sharp and stylish. Now for button choice. I have to say that the advent of three and four buttoned suits has done nothing to aid the English clothing market. Never go for more than two buttons if you are having a single breasted suit made. The two buttons will mean that the suit buttons in the right areas around your waist and will frame your face and neck, making you look and feel more confident and comfortable.

If you are a showing a little bit more good living around your waist then a well cut double breasted suit can work equally as well for you. Be proud, be confident and have a two buttoned double breasted suit that buttons up snugly around your midriff. This will allow you to move more freely, be more comfortable and you won't have your suit tightening up over your shoulders and back.

Be proud of your body and make your suit work for your body shape. Let your tailor help you accentuate what you do want to show and hide what you don't. You will have a suit that not only makes you look amazing, it will make you feel incredible too. **CS**

**To ask Tom a question please email The Editor at editor@stylemagazines.co.uk.**