



WOMEN'S SHOES

October 2017

1920 Flats

- Most [women's shoes in the 1920s](#) had 2-3 inch heels. Lower heel oxfords, Mary Jane's and a few T straps were worn around the house or running local errands. Oxfords, which were styled after men's shoes, had 1/4 to 1/2 inch heels. They were considered sporty shoes meaning they were worn with casual clothing while playing a sport- [pleated skirts](#), knickers, and [pants](#) (gasp!) Low heel "sport" oxfords were usually not worn with dresses although I am sure many women did anyway. In the early years, the toes were round and a little pointy. By the middle to end of the decade, the toes flattened out to a square shape making more room for toes to move and breathe.



1930 Saddle Shoes/Sport Shoes

- The 1920s started the trend for the canvas saddle shoes– a two tone low heel Oxford with a contrasting panel of color in the center. The **1930s saddle shoe** expanded the low heel style into a mid heel walking Oxford. Color choices grew, too. Instead of just brown and white, they came in blue and white, tan and white, black and white, or green and white. The body could be white or colored with contrasting laces. The **Crepe rubber** sole replaced expensive leather and was durable, non slip, shock absorbing and less costly to make.



1937 Saddle Shoes

1930 Flats

Oxfords and simple Mary Jane shoes continued to be worn in the 1930s. Low heels remained common leisure time or work shoes. Oxfords in the 30s featured brogue (small holes) in most spring and summer styles. Some had alternative lacings such as the Ghillie style or color combinations that mimicked men's two-tone wingtip shoes. Casual oxfords were worn with high waisted pants, overalls and rompers for an easy going summer fashion. The menswear oxfords could also be worn with more sophisticated trousers, vests and jackets for a masculine-meets-feminine look. The heel height was 1/2 inch at the lowest.



T-Strap



T-strap : The t-strap was super popular in the 1920s and persisted into the 1930s but with lots of quintessentially '30s perforations and cut-outs. T-strap sandals were great for summer, and white was the most popular summer shoe color, although bright colors and some pastels were worn as well. Black T-straps remained the ideal versatile day or evening shoe for most of the early to mid 1930s.

Monk Strap Shoes



1930s Monk Strap Shoes

Monk strap shoes were a **one-strap 1930s shoe** with an extra wide strap across the middle of the instep, a tall vamp and tongue fully covering the top of the foot. The Monk strap buckled on the side. Monk straps were most common on an Oxford shoe, with multiple piece construction and lots of perforations.

Decorative Tongue



1930's Shoe with Removable Tongues

Shoes featuring removable fringe tongues gave the wearer two shoes for the price of one! While usually part of a lace up Oxford shoe, the versatility was popular enough there were even sandals and monk strap shoes with removable decorative tongues. Some shoes came with two tongues, giving the owner three different looks. Tongued 1930s shoes were practical and frugal— a perfect choice for cash strapped women.

DSW



Amazon



Modcloth



Royal Vintage



- Where you can find information on vintage shoes?

- Schuler Shoes
 - Schulershoes.com
- Vintage Dancer
 - Vintagedancer.com
- Zappos
 - www.zappos.com
- ModCloth
 - www.modcloth.com
- DSW
 - www.dsw.com
- Amazon
 - www.amazon.com
- The Restorer Magazine
- Model "A" News Magazine



Our goal is to share our love of the Model A's and the history of a simpler time.

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