

Chinese Clothing

中国的服饰

1 ★ 00:03

Outline

1. An Overview of Traditional Chinese Clothing
2. History and Features of Chinese Clothing
3. Two Most Famous Chinese Clothing
4. Activity: Design a Chinese-style Clothing

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1

An Overview of Traditional Chinese Clothing

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Chinese clothing has many types and suits according to various occasions. There are traditional Han Fu, Zhongshan suit, Cheongsam (also called Qi Pao), and many other suits created by ethnic groups scattered all over the China. Each type of cloth has their unique way of making and sewing and exquisite patterns. They were not only evolving over time but also transforming dramatically following dynastic changes.

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Han Fu 汉服 Cheongsam 旗袍 Costumes 民族服饰

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1

In Ancient Time: Symbol of Status

In ancient feudal society, people's rank and social status could easily be figured out from their daily dressing, especially for the ordinary people and the upper-class.

Among the upper dominating classes, only the Emperor can wear yellow clothing and the dragon decoration for showing their power.

As for the ministers, generals, and their wives, their uniforms were also restrictively regulated for how many lions or cranes etc can be embroidered on.

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In the ancient time, Chinese clothing is very important in people's life. It is the symbol of Chinese culture and customs.

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Nowadays: Cheongsam as a representative

There is no "typical" Chinese costume today. If any style of clothing can represent "Chinese", it would be the Cheongsam (also called "Qipao"), which has evolved from ancient clothing of the Manchu ethnic minority. Cheongsam is popular because it fits Chinese female's figure well, and has simple lines and looks elegant. It is suitable for wearing all the year and for both young and elderly people. And it can either be long or short.

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1

The evolution of orthography

yī 衣 clothing

Stroke order

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2- History

History and Features of Chinese Clothing

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2- History

The Development of Clothing in China

Chinese complete costume style was established in the Han Dynasty (206BC-220AD). The yarn-dyeing, embroidering and metal-processing technologies developed rapidly in the period, supporting changes in costume and adornments.

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2- History

Chinese Clothing during Tang Dynasty(618-907)

The Tang Dynasty (618-907) was the most brilliant page in the history of Chinese clothing. People's clothes were more varied than before because China was more open to the outside world and people became more cosmopolitan in their thinking. The clothes for women could be called fashionable because they changed rapidly and were showy. As long as a new style came out, many people were willing to be the first to wear it.

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2- History

Chinese Clothing during Song, Yuan, Ming Dynasties

Casual wear appeared during the Song Dynasty (960-1279), and clothes were simple and elegant. During the Yuan Dynasty (1261-1368), the Mongolian ethnic group, known as the People on Horseback, was in power. The style of clothing was mainly a combination of Mongolian and Han. Clothes were simple and unadorned in design. Dramatic changes took place during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). A new conception came into being in clothing design, with no limitation to one style and advocating natural beauty, thus bringing vitality to the clothing culture.

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2- History

Chinese Clothing from 1930s till Modern Era

From 1930s till now, Cheongsam (Qipao) has become into fashion. During 1930s to 1940s, dress is further westernized. During 1940s to 1960s, Cheongsam became everyday wear in Hong Kong until the late 1950s. Today, many Chinese brides will choose modern style Cheongsam or Langling Kwa (traditional Chinese dress similar to Qipao) for wedding occasions.

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2- Feature

Material used for making Chinese clothing in ancient time

- Hemp: Wear by lower class (Poor family)
- Silk: Wear by upper class (Wealthy family)

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2- Feature

Do you know where is silk come from?

Silk is from the cocoons of a silkworm.

Silkworm Cocoons of silkworm

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Detailed Introduction

Reading + Watching + Doing

2-Feature

Lucky Color—Red
Red is favorite for most Chinese people since Red symbolizes good luck. Chinese people prefer to wear in red when they are celebrating some important festivals or events in their life, such as Chinese wedding ceremony.

Funeral Color—Black and White
Black and white in China are the colors for funeral.

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3

Two Most Famous Chinese Clothing

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3

Han Fu 汉服 **Cheongsam 旗袍**

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3-Han fu

Hanfu is a traditional national costume that has been passed down for thousands of years by the Han Nationality. In modern society, you can still see people wearing Hanfu at important rituals, and folk festivals.

Hanfu lays the foundations for Chinese costume and deeply influenced Chinese costumes in a long time.

Besides, Japan's traditional costume Kimono and Korea's traditional costume Hanbok are designed basing on the Chinese Hanfu.

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3- Han fu

Basic Rule

- An upper garment and a lower one are connected together.
- The collars diagonally cross each other, with the left crossing over the right in front of the chest.
- The lower garment is in the shape of an apron.

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3-Cheongsam

Cheongsam is evolved from a sort of ancient clothing of the Han ethnic minority. When the early Manchu rulers came to mainland China, they moved their capital to Beijing. They unified China and unified the nationwide costume so that cheongsam began to spread in the central plains as well.

At that time, men wore a long gown and a mandarin jacket over the gown, while women wore cheongsam.

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3-Cheongsam

Why do Han people like to wear the cheongsam?

The main reason is that it fits well Chinese female's figure, has simple lines and looks elegant. What's more, it is suitable for wearing in all seasons by old and young. The cheongsam can either be long or short, unlined or interlined, woven or made of silk than. Besides, with different materials, the cheongsam presents different styles. Cheongsams made of silk with patterns of flowerlet, plain latices or thin lines demonstrate charm of femininity and staidness; those made of brocade are eye-catching and magnificent and suitable for occasions of greeting guests and attending banquets.

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4

Activity: Design Chinese style clothing

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4

Have you ever seen any clothing including Chinese elements?

Chinese Elements

Blue and white porcelain, Duanqun, Ink painting

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4

Chinese Elements

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4

Design

Design a Chinese style clothing

- Choose a clothing style from any period
- Add at least three Chinese elements as the pattern.

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Show Your Design!

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Fun Activity

Easy to organize!

4

Have you ever seen any clothing including Chinese elements?

Chinese Elements

Blue and white porcelain

Dragon

Ink painting



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4

Chinese Elements



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4

Activity



Design a Chinese style clothing

- Choose a clothing style from any period
- Add at least three Chinese elements as the pattern

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Show Your Design!



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Words Related to Clothing

(Provide Pinyin, meaning, and stroke order)

Words

kù zi
裤子
Pants

Stroke order

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
点	横折钩	竖	撇	点	点	横	撇

Words

chèn shān
衬衫
Shirt

Stroke order

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
点	横折钩	竖	撇	点	点	横	撇

Words

qún zi
裙子
Skirt

Stroke order

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
点	横折钩	竖	撇	点	点	横	撇
9	10	11	12				
点	横折钩	竖	撇				

Character knowledge

“衣” can also be used as a semantic radical representing “clothing-related”.

As a semantic radical, “衣” is written as “衤”.

For example, “裙”, “裤”, “衬”, “衫”.

Words

yī
衣服
Clothing

Stroke order

1	2	3	4	5	6
点	横	撇	竖	撇	捺

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
撇	横折钩	横	横	横折钩	竖	横撇钩	捺

