

# Tailoring for Women

Email: [carol.alayne@tailoringforwomen.com](mailto:carol.alayne@tailoringforwomen.com)

Website: [www.tailoringforwomen.com](http://www.tailoringforwomen.com)

Tel: +44 (0)7950 401881\+44 (0)7976 432348

## Body Type Template

Tailoring for Women	silhouettes	fabrics	details	patterns
<b>angular</b> rectangular, no waist, flat hips and bottom	simple and unstructured, straight lines, square shoulders, waist definition, tailored and tapered	crisp cottons and linens, wool that retains shape, tightly woven knits, stiff silk/linen, blends that don't drape excessively	sharp lapels, lapel-less, minimal darts or tucks at waist, stiff or pressed down pleats; straight, cross-over, wrap around, slit skirts	stripes of any widths, fine to moderate polka dots, modest paisleys/prints, abstracts of more geometric shapes
<b>curved</b> defined waist, rounded hips and bottom	defined at waist, rounded and flowing, soft unconstructed shapes, raglan or softly set-in sleeves, easy movement in skirts	jersey, silk crêpe de chine, silk-like micro fibres, stone washed fabrics, wool crêpe, fine flannel, bouclé, lambs wool, chambray, soft brocades	draped\shawl collars, lapel-less jackets, soft neckline, cinched waist, belted design, soft gathers, inverted pleats at waistline, skirts: gored, bell, sarong or dirndl	paisleys, soft abstracts, polka dots, multi-coloured weaves (not square), abstract florals
<b>angles+curves</b> straight shoulders, definite waist and curvy bottom	simple and unstructured, straight lines, square shoulders, waist definition, tailored and tapered	crisp cottons and linens, wool that retains shape, tightly woven knits, stiff silk/linen, blends that don't drape excessively	draped or shawl collar, lapel-less jacket, soft neckline, cinched waist, belted design, soft gathers, inverted pleats at waistline, skirt; gored, bell, sarong or dirndl skirts	paisleys, soft abstracts, polka dots, multi-coloured weaves (not square), abstract florals
<b>full-figured</b> round body, often a short waist and long legs	simple and unstructured, straight lines, square shoulders	jersey, silk crêpe di chine, silk-like micro fibres, stone washed fabrics, wool crêpe, fine flannel, bouclé, lambs wool, chambray, soft brocades	simple styles that drape from the shoulders, distracting the eye away from the fullest point	plain shades from the primary colour palette, vertical patterns, pin-stripes, bold patterns in blouse and scarves

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## QUALIFIERS

**Classic 'Pear' shape** (a neat upper body with a defined waist and fuller hip):

Rebalance with a strong shoulder line, shaped waist and the reduction of volume from the waist down. For the upper half, jackets with a well-defined shoulder; bright patterns, details or accessories, or perhaps a waistcoat to add volume. For the lower half, keep the volume of skirts to a minimum and hemlines at a flattering calf level, stay away from detail on both skirts and trousers.

### **Short waisted:**

Wear longer jackets that bypass the waist and blend them with either a short or long skirt depending upon your length of leg. Longer dresses give more opportunity for fluted or pleated details and they also flatter the longer leg. The impression of a longer torso and lower waist can be achieved by wearing the same colour of belt as the garment for the upper half of the body, and this is particularly effective when linked to one's [primary colour palette](#). For this figure type, the simple tailored coat-dress with a drop waisted belt always looks comfortable and professional.

**Long-waisted:** to make your lower half appear longer and shorten the torso think of short, cropped jackets. Keep the attention on the waist with a belt to create a division between upper and lower halves, but match the colour of the skirt or trouser. Minimize details in the skirts and trousers, and show some leg!

**Fuller figure:** it is important to give the impression of health and vigour. Start with the [primary colours](#) from one's palette. Use simple styles in plainer fabrics with accessories such as jewellery or scarves. The fit of the garments should be looser and elegant, and never strained. Trying to squeeze into a smaller size will have the opposite effect from that intended.

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