

Clara's 1930s Zipper Dress

Clara's Depression Era Dress is a very simple outfit with big pockets and a zipper down the front. Although the modern zipper was invented in 1913, it was not commonly found in clothing until the late 1930s, so this dress is one of the first ready-made items of clothing to have a zipper. Dresses were commonly made of calico or other inexpensive cloth, with some even cut from flour sacks. Clara also has some wedge heel shoes with a little ribbon-style trim, although she might have spent many summer days barefoot. And today, she has a big basket of peaches she picked to bottle or make into jam. Mason jars full of peaches or other fruit were "put up" for the winter by many industrious families in this era.

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