

# Mary Quant

“Risk it, go for it. Life always gives you another chance, another go at it. It’s very important to take enormous risks.”

Mary Quant is an English fashion designer, and fashion icon. She became an instrumental figure in the 1960s youth fashion movements. She promoted fun fashions and encouraged young people to dress to please themselves. She believed in treating fashion as a game.

Complete 3-Daisy, 4-Brownie, 5-Junior, 6-Cadette,  
and 7-Senior/Ambassador steps to earn your patch.

All monthly patches are custom designed patches. Once we get the final number of patches after the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, we place an order. Patches take about a month to create and then we mail them to you. You will get a confirmation email once the patches are headed your way.

*Order patches on-line by January 15, 2021 at*

**GETYOURGIRLPOWER.ORG**

## Discover

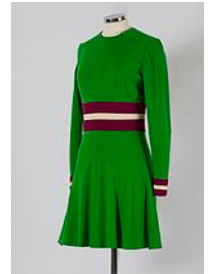
1. In 1963 Mary was the first winner of the Dress of the Year award. The Dress of the Year has been awarded every year since 1963 and it’s usually a dress or garment that represents the style of the time in history. Do you some research on some other dress of the year awards! How did the styles change through-out the years?
2. Many fashions in the United States (such as the mini skirt) originated in different countries. Mary Quant was seen as a commercial and cultural powerhouse when she landed a contract with a major U.S. department chain store JC Penny’s. What other fashions originated from other countries? Do some research and discuss with your troop!

3. Check out some images from the Mary Quant exhibit in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London by clicking the link below. Then ask members of your family if they ever wore similar fashions when they were younger? How are the clothes different from what we currently wear?

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/articles/inside-the-mary-quant-exhibition>

### Connect

4. Mary is mostly widely known for the mini skirt. See picture to the side. The reason skirts were getting shorter in the 1950's was to make it more practical for women working and running for the bus. If you could be known for a signature fashion what would it be? Do you frequently wear your hair a certain way? Do you love sparkly clothes? Compare and contrast with your troop what your various signature styles are.



5. Mary Quant said about the mini skirt wearers “they are curiously feminine, but their femininity lies in their attitude rather than in their appearance ... She enjoys being noticed, but wittily. She is lively—positive—opinionated.” How do you think fashion represents us? When you pick out your outfit in the morning what attitude do you want your clothes to say about you? How do you feel about the role of fashion and how it plays into gender stereotypes? Discuss with your troop!
6. Mary wanted to attend fashion school but her parents would not let her so she started taking illustration classes. She graduated with a degree in art education in 1953. Try your hand at illustrations! Below is a link to some easy drawing tutorials; but feel free to look up different videos and weblinks as well. Maybe you could try drawing your favorite show or movie character! Share your drawing with friends, family and your troop!

<https://design.tutsplus.com/articles/100-easy-drawing-tutorials--cms-28365>

7. Mary began designing clothes when she was very young. At age six she was cutting up old bedspreads to make clothes for herself and by the time she was a teenager she was shortening and re-designing her school dresses. With a parent's permission see if there are any old blankets, fabric, old clothes that you could try to make new! You could also use unconventional items such as newspapers or garbage bags to design a new outfit. Get creative! There is a ton of inspiration on sites like Pinterest. Then have a fashion show with your family or troop!

### Take Action

8. In 1957 Mary opened up her own shop called Bazaar with her husband and a friend from college. It quickly became a huge hit, and was expanded throughout Europe and the United States. She eventually started selling make up, household items as well. Split up into groups within your troop and develop a business plan for your shop. What will you sell? How will you market your business? Who is your ideal customer? Do you plan to sell online or in a shop; or both? Where is your shop located? Work together and present your finished business plan to the rest of your troop!
9. There are a ton of different sewing (and no-sew) community service type projects to help others. Some examples include fleece braided dog/cat toys to give to your local animal shelter (link below) or the Linus Project No Sew blankets to give to children in hospitals (link below) or wheelchair totes for nursing homes. (link below) Get creative and get sewing to make the world a better place!

<https://www.marymarthamama.com/crafty-cat/diy-fleece-dog-toy-tutorial/>

<https://www.projectlinus.org/patterns/pdf/NoSewFB.pdf>

<http://www.sewing.org/html/wheelchair.html>

10. Materials like PVC and plastic were innovative during the 1950's. But since then, there has been more research into sustainability and the impact materials have on the environment, including their ability to be recycled or degrade naturally. Consider the environmental impact of clothes. Use the Fabric of the World website to research biodegradable fabrics. What makes them better for the environment? Choose a few items from your closet and use the clothing tags to identify the materials which make those pieces of clothing. Do any of them contain sustainable materials? Discuss your findings with your troop to hear how your findings compared to each other.