

garment greatness

Maestro Luca La Monaca finds the perfect fit in every suit

A quality designer suit should fit as if it were custom-made for you. At Raleigh Limited, you can rest assured that master tailor Luca La Monaca will make your new suit hang properly, regardless of your physique.

Thanks to a long apprenticeship with a master tailor in Palermo, Sicily, before he emigrated to the United States as a young man, La Monaca knows how to make small alterations in a garment that ensure you look your best in it. Because he knows all the mysteries of crafting a suit by hand, he can keep you looking your best as long as you own the suit, even if you gain or lose a few pounds.

"A good tailor understands the garment on the customer," says La Monaca. "I understand how you want to look, and I have the experience and confidence to do any alterations required."

Standard fittings at Raleigh Limited include checking for proper sleeve and trouser lengths, making sure the jacket's shoulder seams and collar are positioned to keep the garment balanced when you are standing upright, checking the front closures so the buttons close comfortably and adjusting the entire trouser for ease, comfort and style. La Monaca makes chalk lines and pins the suit on you to customize it to your build.

"Buy a suit that works for your chest girth and shoulder measurements, especially if you have a muscular or athletic build," says La Monaca. "We can alter the pantaloni more easily to fit you, even if you need a much smaller pants size than comes with the suit jacket."

Because La Monaca was a custom suit-maker with his own shop for many years, he knows the science of clothing construction.

"It's not just about alterations," he says. "I understand anatomy and how the suit should fit the body. I am also an expert at sewing, down to the buttonholes."

This confidence means that even if you have had special fitting problems in the past, you can be certain that La Monaca will make the proper adjustments. He will go as far as taking apart a garment and remaking it to accommodate your posture, if necessary.

La Monaca holds up a garment he's currently tailoring as a way of explaining his work. The suit jacket in his hands is for an older gentleman with one sloping shoulder and a slight stoop, although La Monaca says anyone with scoliosis needs the same attention to detail in the fit.

"I'm essentially making two coats in one, because each side is different for this customer," says La Monaca. "I have ripped apart the coat and will put it back together better than it came from the factory. The jacket will hang so beautifully, it will make the customer's stoop less noticeable."



With in-store alterations for as long as you own the suit, Raleigh Limited is dedicated to helping you get the best wear out of garments you purchase there.

La Monaca suggests that to get the best fit, wear the shoes you plan to wear with the suit when trying it on. Be prepared to spend time with the tailor after the salesman helps you select a suit. You can get most alterations done within a week.

"Mark [Koplow] supports our efforts to please the customer," says La Monaca. "We do whatever is required to ensure your satisfaction, as long as we can do it without compromising the garment."

