



MORTON GROVE

Small Business Spotlight

Bourjois Bespoke Tailors

5832 Dempster Street
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053
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Bourjois Bespoke Tailors' small tailoring shop and bright yellow sign dress up the Dempster corridor at 5832 Dempster Street. Morton Grove is proud to be home to diverse and unique small businesses throughout its commercial and industrial districts. In the Village's first Small Business Spotlight, we introduce Bourjois Bespoke Tailors and its owner, Michael Shahwan. "Bespoke" is a fitting name as it refers to the production of custom-made articles.

Michael started Bourjois Bespoke Tailors at this location two years ago after briefly retiring as a Master Tailor. He could not suppress his passion for creating bespoke suits, vests, slacks, and shirts for his sharply dressed clientele.

Michael came to the United States in 1970 from a town outside of Bethlehem in Palestine. He apprenticed as a tailor and earned the title of Master Tailor in 1972. He has shared the art of tailoring with many apprentices and throughout the bespoke community. He notes that his trade is a dying one, as



The inside of Bourjois Bespoke Tailors' shop at 5832 Dempster Street

there are not many true tailors left in the Chicagoland area.

Bourjois Bespoke Tailors' showroom and workspace are impressive, showcasing handmade garments, patterns, and finishing machines that aid in hand-sewn work. Beautiful imported fabrics and accessories are available for customers to peruse.

Michael's style reflects a blend of old-style Italian and classic British tailoring. He is a craftsman with a strong eye for detail, quality, and fit. Offering endless choices for fabric, color, style, and finishing, he customizes each made-to-measure piece, creating personalized works of wearable art. In a world of fast fashion, Michael hangs his hat on quality and timelessness.

Michael provides full-service tailoring, including alterations and bespoke garment construction. A handcrafted bespoke piece will include measurements, the creation of an original pattern, and construction with uniform hand stitching. The high quality of Michael's work is noticeable, and he is proud of his many loyal customers, including men, women, and children.



Michael Shahwan, owner of Bourjois Bespoke Tailors, with garments and patterns

To share his craft with the world, Michael plans to release YouTube videos educating viewers on the art of tailoring. He plans to host live question and answer sessions, helping novices and trained professionals learn more about tailoring and sharpen their skills. He hopes sharing his wealth of knowledge will help keep the craft alive.

Michael is clear that his greatest pride in life is his family, which includes six beloved grandchildren. He says that their health and wellbeing comes above all else.

You can visit Michael at Bourjois Bespoke Tailors Tuesday through Saturday. There is plenty of convenient parking to the rear of the store. The shop's excellent customer service and high quality work earn the shop excellent reviews and keep customers coming back. The Village encourages you to check out all the small businesses the community has to offer. Supporting Morton Grove small businesses bolsters the local economy and helps ensure that our businesses and commercial districts thrive for years to come.