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Back to School in Style-both genders

It's that time of year again: back to school. Whether you're a college freshman at the ripe old age of 18, or a graduate or nontraditional student at a more mature age, figuring out what to wear in school is always an issue.

Do you go looking like a slob in sweats because who really cares anyway and your classes are too early to care?

Do you wear a three piece suit to every class and become known as the class suck up?

Do you find middle ground and show up looking put together but still comfortable?

It depends on what your goals are. Are you a trust fund baby who is going to school for mommy and daddy (who are paying for everything) and will never have to work a day in your life (unless the stock market crashes again)?

Do you want to be the next ruler of the world, power business person who's totally no frills?

Or is your goal to put in your time, get good grades and be able to use your education for a

meaningful career whether it's in the corporate world or as an entrepreneur?

If your answer is the last one, let's talk about this more. If it's either of the other two, you should still take this advice.

It's tempting to just throw on some sweats or some old jeans and a t-shirt and head to class, but it's just as easy and quick to put on a selection of predetermined outfits that will make you stand out from the crowd and be noticed. This may bring you early success and greater networking and employment opportunities.

Outfit 1: dark wash jeans, sweater with long sleeve t-shirt underneath. Non-athletic shoes.

Outfit 2: khakis, nice jean jacket, t-shirt and non-athletic shoes.

Outfit 3: fun jacket, top (non-t-shirt), slim jeans

Outfit 4 (presentations): cardigan or suit jacket, shirt, pants or skirt

Choose one of these and you'll be an A+ student instantly (at least with looks).



Fashion Faux-Pas: Leggings as Pants

Even though leggings aren't a hot trend this fall season, I know many people will continue wearing them. That's fine but let's talk about wearing them so you're not committing a fashion faux-pas.

Leggings are not pants. Leggings are meant to be worn to cover your legs when

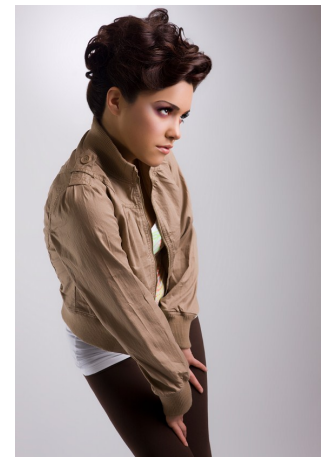
you don't want them bare under skirts, dresses, tunics or other long garments you wear on top.

Think of them as thick tights. They're not meant to take the place of pants where people can see your butt. You don't want people to see lumps and bumps. Leggings show all of

them.

Your top or other garment worn with them should totally cover your waist, butt and hips.

Leggings are great basics when worn the way they're meant to be, and can give an outfit a whole new look.



Men: Yes, Sometimes You Need to Commit

Huh? What kind of commitment is there with dressing? I'm glad you asked. The commitment process (yes, it's a process) starts with you taking the time to get your outfit ready for the next day. This includes giving some thought to coordinating the colors and the proper types of garments you'll be wearing.

By the way, if you get this process right, you'll be way above the vast majority of men.

I know you're thinking, "that's how women do it" but your process will be on a much smaller scale due to no makeup, etc.

The commitment process is about getting in the habit of making sure your

pants and shirts are clean and ironed. Included in the process is having your shoes shined and your socks and belt laid out.

This all eliminates any last minute surprises when you're getting ready for work, running errands (yes, you want to look good even when you're just going to the store), or a night on the town.

Getting in the habit of doing this process should take no more than 10 minutes out of your day (not including ironing).

It's a short, daily process that's well spent and goes a long way towards you looking well put together and polished.

Written by: A Fashionable Gentleman



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How to be an Awesome Editor (and I'm not talking writing)



Do you know how to edit? No, I'm not talking about fixing writing for publication. I'm talking about editing your wardrobe so absolutely everything in it is the best for you.

How do you do something like that? To start with, every time you go shopping, before you grab something that catches your eye, you ask yourself, "do I really, really like this?"; "is it in my color palette?"; "does it look good on my body type?" and "can I wear it with more than one thing I already own?". If you honestly can say yes to all 4 of those questions and it fits great, buy it!

If you didn't answer yes to all 4 questions, this is where editing comes in, put it back! Yes, it may be hard at

that moment, but you'll thank yourself later when it's not hanging in your closet with the tags still on it and you feel guilty for not wearing it.

When you're looking at items already in your wardrobe, ask yourself the same questions. If you can't say yes to all of the questions, get rid of it. Yes, even if you spent a month's salary on it and the tags are still on it. Yes, even if you've worn it a hundred times already, Yes, even if Aunt Kathy made it for you.

This is the time to edit with abandon. It may be difficult to get rid of some (or a lot of) things, but when you're done and your wardrobe is easy to find outfits from every time you look, you'll realize, you're now an awesome editor!