



You and Your Wardrobe

The first step in planning a more effective wardrobe is to consider your lifestyle and clothing needs. Consider how much time you spend doing different things and aim to work out the percentage breakdown of activities over a period of time.

Your wardrobe needs.

Your needs will vary according to whether you work outside the home or not, if you do work, how formal or casual you need to be for work. On which occasions are you regularly stuck for the right outfit.

If you work outside the home %	If you don't work outside the home %
Special Occasions	Formal evening wear
Formal Business Wear	Semi Formal evening wear
Relaxed Business wear	Relaxed evening wear
Business casual	Smart daytime wear
Tidy Casual	Smart casual
Casual	Casual
Total	Total

Your Clothing Budget

Cost per wear

In order to work out the true value of a garment, divide the amount you spent on it by the number of times you have worn it, or expect to wear it. You should always spend the most on the clothes that you will wear the most.

i.e An evening dress costing £150 and worn 3 times, costs £50 per wear.



Assess and organise your current wardrobe.

Before you can shop, you need to assess and organise what you already have. Identify the gaps and put together a shopping plan.

There are three simple steps you can take to improve your wardrobe straight away:-

1. Review and sort what you already have
2. Make time to clean, care and repair
3. Organise what's left

Review and sort

Set aside some time for this, and ideally at the start of every season. Take everything out and organise three piles. You may end up with a pile of don't knows and we can help you with that.

Definitely out	Needs attention	Definitely in
Haven't worn in last 2 years Doesn't fit It's the wrong colour/style Its dated Its worn or stained It doesn't go with anything Its not right for your lifestyle	Needs dry cleaning Needs a wash Needs altering Needs mending	You feel good in it Its fits You wear it regularly It suits your colouring It suits your shape, height and proportions It works with other items in your wardrobe.
Bin it, take it to a charity shop, or sell on EBay.	Make sure you take action on these and don't put them back in your wardrobe till wearable again.	Keep it!

Successful and stress free shopping

It's a good idea to aim to have 20% of your wardrobe for your "bottom" half (trousers, skirts, shorts) and around 80% for your "top half" (blouses, jackets, shirts and tops). A good way of ensuring you always look up to date is to have around 60% of your wardrobe made up of classic, basic items. Around 30% can then be on fashionable basics and 10% on high fashion items. That way you can update your basics each season and can look fashionable without spending a fortune.