



find fashion happiness april 2009 newsletter



Spring is here and because of the world's financial picture, we are thinking more about what we buy.

In light of this, I wanted to share some ideas for shopping in your own closet and reworking pieces you already own.

rethink your wardrobe

1. Use a binder or corkboard to collect visual images that you like and see if you can get those looks with items already in your closet
2. Organize your closet visually. Set up your tops, pants, skirts, etc. by piece. It's easier to see what you have and find what you need faster
3. Mix and match. Here are some examples of different ways to wear your items:
 - Break up a sweater set. You can use the shell as a vest with a thin shirt or tee underneath and/or the cardigan over a sleeveless dress with matching belt and neutral shoes. Try lots of different combos!
 - Re-work suit pieces. Fitted blazers can be worn with trousers, jeans and pencil skirts. Skirts can be belted with a pretty, colorful blouse or sweater too
 - Dress up your best dark wash jeans with:
 - a sweater or menswear vest over a basic black top
 - a blazer, t-shirt and long wrapped scarf (fold the scarf in half, wrap around your neck and bring the loose ends through the folded one)
 - a glitzy blouse or tee and cute heels
 - a large, colorful handbag or pair of shoes with a neutral top
4. Velvety thin hangers are a great investment. After surveying many of my clients and trying them myself, the feedback is they do take up a lot less space and clothes do not slide off. I recently found them at Costco - \$20 for 50 hangers

5. Alterations. Check your skirts and dresses to see if they can be shortened to freshen up the look. Take all your mid-calf hemlines to the narrowest part of your knee to instantly de-matronize them.
6. Glamour is in the details. Pull out your jewelry – especially good items – and start wearing them in new ways. Try pairing delicate necklaces together or stacking several bracelets. Maybe wear your pearls with a cute sweater and jeans?

top trends

If you're feeling trendy, here are my favorites this season...

- **Plaids** – in pretty gauzy spring/summer colors and fabrics. Look for long, colorful, breezy scarves or shirts that are nipped in at the waist
- **Spring brights.** We all need a shot of color to bring on spring! A pretty pink, lavender or yellow purse can enliven neutral clothes. For clothing, look for the colors that flatter you most; blues and pinks tend to be easiest.
- **Menswear-style vests** are cute with trousers or jeans worn with a fitted t-shirt or white shirt.
- **Geometric, ethnic and small floral prints,** are all popular this season and can spruce up your current wardrobe. Only use one look at a time, please!

my favorite things

1. I've been recommending a soft, pink blush to enhance your natural skin tone and look more youthful. Try Clinique's Cupid, MAC's Dame or CoverGirl's Plumberry Glow (the steal of the bunch). Brush lightly on the apples of your cheeks, temples and neck for a natural glow.

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my favorite things - continued

2. L'Oréal Double Extend Beauty Tubes mascara has been a breakthrough, especially if you are prone to crumbles. It's more work (you put a "base" on before the actual mascara) but it stays on and doesn't move!

i'm here to assist...

To get a jump start on organizing your closet, reworking your spring wardrobe or removing last season's clutter, please call me at **847-721-0607** or email back at suz1960@sbcglobal.net. Refer three friends and get one hour of my time for **FREE!**

it's a work-in-progress

Your ideas have been wonderful, but I haven't had the time to do some of the updates you've recommended (adding visuals, etc.) Please keep the ideas and questions coming, though. I love the feedback.

Best to you all - Suzanne