

FALL & WINTER WARDROBE ESSENTIALS CHECKLIST

Pants

- Three pairs of full length black, brown, and charcoal pants in a wool, or wool blend fabric. For those of us who shy away from wool, try a heavier blend of rayon/viscose, nothing too lightweight.
- Two pairs of “weekend pants”, exclusive of jeans. Example, neutral cords, dark brown khaki like casual pants.
- One pair of dress evening pants, in a silk, velvet or satin...something easy to dress up that will compliment a dressy top for a party or event.

Jeans

- Two pair of dark blue denim jeans with very little fading or whiskering (can be worn day or evening.) One pair should be altered to fit perfectly with heels, the other pair should be altered to wear with flats.
- One pair of medium to dark blue denim jeans that are more casual (i.e. with fading and/or whiskering.)

Skirts

- One black, chocolate, and charcoal skirt in a tropical wool, or blended wool fabric.
- Denim skirt (nothing shorter than slightly above the knee)
- One skirt that is day to night, for example, a straight black skirt in a refined fabric.

Dresses

- One year-round little black dress for any generic event—not more than an 1" above the knee and not low-cut or revealing (work dinner, funeral, conservative gathering.)
- Two fun cocktail dresses ('tis the season of work parties, festive gatherings and events, so don't be caught scrambling for something to wear)
- One day dress with long sleeves that can easily convert to evening (example, a DVF wrap dress.)

Jackets

- Shorter jacket that is versatile and provides warmth but can still be worn indoors (and provides enough warmth for the lighter chill days.)
- Good blazer in a wool blend, that will work for the office (preferably it will match one of your basic long pants or skirts so you have a suit option.)

- Car length coat in a nice warm wool blend that is fully lined. Doesn't need to be a solid color, but needs to be a subtle enough print or pattern that you will still wear it with everything.
- Sweatshirt "coat" for casual days.

Sweaters

- Black, cream, chocolate, charcoal or shitake tan cardigans (at least two.)
- Cashmere turtlenecks in at least two essential colors (black, cream, chocolate, charcoal)
- 4 sweaters in flattering colors to pair with your neutral bottoms, varying weights depending on the climate in your area.

Shirts

- White button down shirt.
- Cream button blouse.
- Long sleeve silk or cotton blended blouse in mellow print or pretty color.

Tees & Tanks

- Tanks, black, white and chocolate for layering and extra warmth.
- Long sleeve cotton tees, black, chocolate, cream, and a few pop colors, for layering.
- Several turtlenecks in basic colors and at least one "pop" color.
- A long sleeve "tee" in black in a blended fabric that can be dressed up.

PJ's:

- Three sets of matching pjs (necessary to keep the old sweats, boxers and oversized tees at bay)

Underpinnings:

- Black, chocolate, and nude stretchy cami.
- Several pair of truly invisible thongs, black and nude are necessary colors (this is in addition to your basic everyday undies collection.)
- Pair of body slimming shorts.
- Racer-back bra and a good fitting strapless bra.

Accessories:

- Classic leather bag in a neutral color, or neutral print
- Two shawls/scarves, one in a neutral light brown, black, camel or cream, and one in a versatile color or print (but with some kick to it)
- Good eyeglasses (these are worn daily and outdated or unflattering versions are a disaster)
- Good hair accessories (nothing ruins a put together outfit like having to borrow your daughter's Dora the Explorer hair tie.)
- Several pairs of tights in neutral colors.
- A pair of neutral gloves (cashmere or leather).

Shoes

- Flats in a neutral color plus a fun pair in a neutral bright, like red.
- Heels in black, brown—simple and good for the office.
- One pair of evening shoes in a neutral color such as black higher heel and sexier cut.)
- Great black and brown tall boots (substitute in short boots if you prefer or if you are very short and can't pull off tall boots.)
- Pair of casual boots (Ugggs makes some that aren't those once trendy huge snowman ones--they make sleek cute suede pairs with cute detailing; puma also does a cool boot that is very casual – great with denim skirt and thick tights – with a easy to run around in sole and lots of style.
- Casual sneakers that are cute (and not the ones you run in at the gym)!!