

FASHION, SHOPPING & CARE™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens

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CLOTHING CARE ... with Steve

Stain School & Care: Casual Clothing

How do you care for your casual clothing? Does your dry cleaner promote professional care for casual clothing?

I was involved in a study that examined the care of casual clothing: Ten garments were washed at home and ten identical garments were sent to a reputable dry cleaner. Then all the garments were sent to me to “guess” and assess which were which.

To give you a sense of the type of clothing, there was a turquoise linen suit, poly crepe slacks and skirt, and a cashmere sweater.

What did we find out?

The washed items were all affected in some way; buckled and uneven hems, faded dyes, shrinkage, some loss of “body.” Most of the clothing could have been restored to wearable condition with professional pressing and finishing — requiring more care than could be provided at home.

The bottom line is that many casual garments, including “finer” fabrics with sturdy dyes and construction, can be washed at home if they are hand-washed or machine-washed in a controlled environment. This means a delicate cycle and perhaps air dried when needed.

However, the finishing and pressing is usually where nice casual clothing falls apart. Talk to your dry cleaner about care for casual clothing and see what you may be missing.

Shopping Savvy – Casual Inspection ...

Casual clothing should still be inspected before you reach the cash register. You expect fine, clean sewing and consistent dyes and color with better clothing. But, you can get the same quality and consistency with casual clothing. However, it's often more hit and miss, so inspect closely and expect more for your dollar.

Steve Boorstein is an author, clothier, drycleaner & radio personality

FASHION & STYLE ... with Kate



Building a Wardrobe: Body Balancing

Part 4: Clothes That Flatter You: Complimentary Clothes

In the last issue we addressed “Inverted Pear-Shaped” bodies and how to select the most trimming and complimentary clothing.

Here's a short list of general clothing items that are my picks for Body Balancing another body type.

Do You Have an “Orange-Shaped” Body?

Create Your Waist ...

- Dusters with belts
- Princess seam blouse
- Blazer – nipped at waist
- Vertical lines
- Dark colors



Elongate Your Body ...

- Vertical stripes
- Heels
- Long scarves and jewelry
- No horizontally striped belts
- Shirt jackets
- Duster
- Tunics
- Monochromatic dressing



If you missed one of the issues that addressed your body shape, ask your host for a back copy, or email The Clothing Doctor directly!

Next Issue: Apple-Shaped Bodies



Kate Rice styles clothing for TV and private clients. Appearing in more than 400 style segments, she's worked with TV Guide, USA Network and Lifetime's Head 2 Toe. Kate delivers style solutions.

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