

FASHION, SHOPPING & CARE™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens

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The CLOTHING DOCTOR® CLOTHING CARE ... with Steve

Stain School & Care: Scarves & Neckties

How to care for scarves and accessories ...

Scarves, belts, neckties and other accessories can last a long time if cared for properly, from the moment you shop and select them, to the moment you clean them.

- ◆ Scarves are generally worn around the neck to protect the garment (especially leather and suede), so they often collect body oils, make up and perspiration.
- ◆ Silk scarves are more fragile than wool and cashmere. Try to resist using water on stains, as water can "set" stains and cause dye bleeding on print scarves.
- ◆ Silk scarves should be steamed, not ironed. Most hems are rolled and require soft steam to maintain the rolled construction.
- ◆ Belts can become soiled from one wearing and are typically hard to clean. For this reason, belts made of fabric, leather, and suede should be inspected under bright light after each wearing and "spot cleaned" at the first sight of soil.
- ◆ Silk neckties and sashes get into all kinds of stains. Men have a habit of dipping their napkins in water to treat stains. This is a dangerous habit because a wet napkin can rough-up the fabric, dull the dye, and "set" stains.

Shopping Savvy: Buying Neckties

When shopping for neckties, follow these tips to make sure that you get the best quality:

- ◆ Lay the tie flat to check the three "corners" of the tie. The side corners should be exactly even and the tip should be centered. Tilt the tie in the light to make sure there are no ripples, waves, stains, and snags.

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

FASHION & STYLE ... with Katie



Building a Wardrobe: Fall Accessories

Flatter Yourself with Accessories ... 2006

In my early years as a TV style expert it was incredibly difficult to pull together outfits for my television appearances. I needed a chic look that visually reinforced the fact that I was a style expert and, at the same time, gave me the credibility to be on national TV.

The problem was I didn't have two pennies to rub together. "Suitable" style experts "pull" outfits from stores like Gucci and Prada. However, those stores were completely out of the question (and frankly, still are). So what did I do? I accessorized!! To me, accessories were and will always be small investments that make a big impact.

I'm going to share my opinions on this subject, over the next two issues. Stylish ladies know there are many reasons to accessorize and here are just a few:

#1. Accessories are less of an investment than clothes, with more style bang for your buck than clothing separates.

#2. Accessories are a simple way to update your overall look, to help you stay au current.

#3. Trends are less risky with accessories. Accessories let you take less of a style risk on a trend without dropping a lot of coin.

#4. Accessories make you instantly stylish ... A bold beautiful scarf will add panache to any drab ensemble.



Katie Rice Jones 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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