

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: Boots & Bags

How to make boots and bags last longer ...

Winter brings rain, snow, salt and sand. This “seemingly harmless” debris can shorten the life of our boots and bags and cause deep stains, unless we do something about it quickly ...

- ◆ Leather boots should be gently cleaned and suede boots should be lightly brushed, after each wearing.
- ◆ If your boots are wet, then allow them to dry at room temperature. Never put them close to a heat source, as the leather may become dry, brittle and dull.
- ◆ After drying, use cedar boot trees to help maintain the shape. If you don't have boot trees, then stuff the inside — from toe to heel — with newspaper print to help absorb moisture and maintain shape.
- ◆ Hand Bags can be very tricky to clean, keep stain removers away from the inside of leather bags. Lipstick, ink, and mascara usually require professional help.
- ◆ Be careful if you get caught in the rain because colored straps can deposit dye on the shoulder of your clothing.
- ◆ Bags and boots should always be stored in breathable cloth bags. And be sure to condition the leather at least twice a season.

Shopping Savvy: Buying Boots & Bags

- ◆ When shopping for boots, be sure to check for inside heel slippage and the length and height of the arch. (Heels often slip until they break in.)
- ◆ When shopping for bags, check the stitching on the bag and the straps and ask if the leather has been treated for rain.

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

FASHION & STYLE ... with Katie



Building a Wardrobe: Fall Accessories

Flatter Yourself with Accessories ... 2006 Part II

Last month's style column started with the subject of accessories and hints, but we ran out of room! So, here are 5,6,7 ...

- #5. Accessories will coordinate your separates: Multi-colored accessories can give a stylish rhythm and reason to an otherwise uncoordinated outfit
- #6. Give your outfit a style direction.
- #7. Create a signature look that says “you!”

Update your last season wardrobe with these must-have fall accessorizes:

1. Wide belts with embellishment or trims



2. Knee-high boots



3. Page Boy hat for that light, airy look



4. Patent leather handbag



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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