

Style On Demand



Style Tip of the Month

The White Shirt

Simple, Elegant, Classic !

What's so great about a white shirt? Everything! It's comfortable, polished and classic. A crisp, white button down shirt can be your answer to that age-old question, *what on earth am I going to wear today?* A white shirt can be dressed down and worn with your favorite pair of jeans or dressed up and worn with a taffeta ball skirt. Typically, when I go out with my girlfriends, we are always trying to find something that is comfortable, yet jazzy enough to wear out on the town. Now of course, we want to look good for ourselves, but a little attention from the opposite sex wouldn't hurt either! One of the best compliments I have ever gotten was several years ago on a date with my then boyfriend and several of his friends and their girlfriends. His friends' girlfriends were always dressed to the nines, so trying to decide what I was going to wear was even more daunting than usual. After a very long and stressful day, it turned out that I only had about 30 minutes before my date to find something to wear, shower and put my makeup on. After standing in my closet in a panic, I finally said, *forget this, I'm not trying to impress anyone*; grabbed my freshly pressed GAP white shirt, my best pair of jeans and a cute pair of mules. When I met up with my guy, he said – *Wow – you look great tonight – I really love what you're wearing!* I couldn't believe it. All of the stress that I normally put myself through to look good, just to receive a wonderful compliment after wearing something so simple? Well I have to say that I felt great, I looked great, and I now had my uniform of choice for those fashion emergencies or for times when I just want something classic, yet stylish to wear.

As for accessories, a white shirt can be worn with just about anything – silver, gold, pearls(my favorite) or absolutely nothing at all(I *mean* “no accessories”!). Also, if you've ever been like me and bought a fabulous handbag that doesn't seem to go with anything in your closet, you can always pair it with a white shirt. The white shirt is simple and will allow your handbag to be the focal point of your outfit. It is always good to have several in your closet to choose from. My favorites come from the GAP, Banana Republic, Anne Fontaine and I have also gotten several nice men's shirts(that I wear myself) from places like Marshall's and TJ Maxx. You can also update the look of a white shirt a bit. One of my favorite things to do is to change the buttons on my shirts to give them a new look. If you have an old white shirt that you want to add a little pizzazz to, buy some new buttons in a cute color or style to liven it up a bit. If you're not a seamstress (however – EVERYONE needs to know how to sew a button on!), you can take it to your local drycleaner or tailor and they can do it for you.

Whatever your style or personality, a white shirt will make you appear as though you've got a celebrity stylist on speed dial. When in doubt, this never-fail, timeless classic is the perfect foundation for a fabulous outfit.

Andrea Bonner

Personal Shopper/Decorative Consultant

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2910 Camelot Lane

Missouri City, TX 77459

p: 713.206.2494 | f: 281.499.1050

e: style_personalshopper@yahoo.com