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Work Clothes (Chic Simple): Casual Dress For Serious Work (Chic Simple Guides)



Synopsis

The once useful formula of pinstripe suits, dress shirts, power ties, and leather wingtips no longer works. Chic Simple Work Clothes shows men and women how to dress in today's new world of work to command respect and ensure a professional bearing, and explains why the radically different new work style has developed. Full-color photos & illustrations.

Book Information

Series: Chic Simple Guides

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Customer Reviews

This was an okay book, I really felt the information could have been presented in a better way. Someone felt "cute" layout and font changes on every page would make a good presentation style for this book, I found that it made information difficult to track and the overall style was confusing. Once I was able to decipher the information, it was very good, and very helpful! One additional warning - the majority of the book was dedicated to male attire. Women had their own section, but, it was a chapter (with assorted extra nuggets of information elsewhere), not a full half of the book.

I really like how the Chic Simple books have no models. Looking at super trim men and women could have taken away from the real purpose in these books. While I can't exactly duplicate each outfit at Walmart, I can use these pictures as guides. Each outfit may not be your "style," but you can pick and choose which clothing and colors will make you look your best, and go from there. One day I'll be brave enough to carry the Chic Simple books around with me when I'm shopping!

This book boasts the catchy, elegant chic simple layout, with fully accessorized outfits laid out against a white background. The focus is on classic (and expensive), quality clothing (cashmere twin sets, Chanel flats, \$300 Hermes scarves)-- but you could copy the ideas using less expensive basics. The idea is to pare down your wardrobe to the essentials, accessorizing the essentials to look polished & perfectly put together. The text is interesting, filled with quotes from movie stars and other famous people, with witty comments about the clothes, what one learns in business school, etc. However, you'll probably be drawn to the photographs and captions the first time through. Only about a third of the book is devoted to female attire, so if you're a woman, looking for advice about women's wardrobe concerns, you might be better served looking elsewhere.

The first thing you notice is the avant-garde wannabe type setting which distracts from the message. Then you notice there is a ton of "fluff" in the book. Quotes from books written in the 1940s that are supposed to convey what fashion was like back then and stuff like that; I didn't buy this book to find out about the history work fashion through this century. The book does have some useful information when it starts talking about fitting clothes and finding quality. However, Josh Karlen's "The Indispensable Guide to Classic Men's Clothing" does a superior and more comprehensive job in this department. The best part of this book is when it starts talking specifics about ensembles.

Unfortunately the captions that go along with the pictures often lack details that are necessary for a clueless shopper. If I had a clue I probably wouldn't be looking in this book. What kinds of slacks are those? What color are they? What fabric are they made of? I know that I need to find my own what suits my own style and tastes but give me something to at least start with! The downside is that this kind of information -- displays of men's clothing ensembles -- can be found in magazines like GQ for a fraction of the cost of this book. If you want to learn more about some of the "theory" of fashion look to another book. If you want more "concrete" examples then leaf through this book at the bookstore...and get a subscription to GQ.

This is the sort of book one gives to new grads, people re-entering the workforce, people starting a new job in a different company/region/field/etc. Lots of visuals, which is always a good thing in fashion advice books. Some of the printed info could have been better arranged. (The creators need to sit down with all three of Edward Tufte's books.) The type face of some pages was waaaaaay too small! Another thing. This isn't really a book for women. The section containing advice for women is just thirty pages out of a total of 174. (hmm.) Still, I'm glad I bought it a few years back. It has lots of good, basic info on clothing construction, fabric, color, classic style, etc., none of which has dated at

all.(Actually, I think I need to re-read it.)

I love this book, I bought a copy for my girlfriend and myself a long time ago and have since repurchased it and that same girlfriend became my wife. It teaches how to set up one's wardrobe and maximize all of the items in it [this allows one to create 3 outfits or more out of one. This was done in the 6th Sense, which made Bruce Willis seem to have changed his clothes throughout the movie when he was really wearing the same things. Overall great book, I highly recommend.

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