

Fashion, Shopping & Care™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens!

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CLOTHING CARE
... with Steve

Stain School - Issue #3

We've talked about splatters, spills, and invisible stains and how important it is to inspect your clothing at the end of the day.

I also want to remind you that while lemon sprays are usually invisible, they *do* contain sugar, which can eventually result in small yellow stains. When you squeeze a lemon into your water, cup the lemon with your hand to keep these harmful sprays from landing on your clothing. Let's take a peek at identifying different types of stains.

Look at Stains Differently:

- ▶ Water-based spills from coffee, soda and wine usually have an outline around them like a road map.
- ▶ Oil-based stains from french fries, vinaigrette dressing and grease do not have an outline. (Never put water on these stains.)
- ▶ Water-based stains with color such as wine, chocolate, and coffee often require a two or three-step process to completely remove them. For washable clothing this may mean pre-soaking, followed by washing (and air drying – no tumbling) and possible bleaching to remove the last trace of the stain.
- ▶ Collar & cuff soil can be a mixture of body oil, perspiration, makeup, perfume or cologne. Make sure to dryclean or wash this clothing within a day or two and never wear these soiled garments more than once.



Shopping Savvy

- ▶ When you shop, ask yourself, "Is this fabric well-suited for me and for what I do? Will it wear well? Can this fabric be washed at home or is it best drycleaned?"
- ▶ Buy clothing that fits your current body.
- ▶ Buy clothing that looks great in the store, looks great at home 72 hours later, and stop buying "maybes." The "maybes" are the garments that usually sit in your closet after the first wearing!

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FASHION & STYLE 411
... with Pascale



Building a Wardrobe

Get Organized Cont. 'd

We addressed buying the basics, building a foundation, filling the holes, and believe that everything else is "gravy." We left off with the value of "The Little Black Dress."

The Finer Points ...

- ▶ **The Gravy:** Once you have a skeleton wardrobe under way, everything else is gravy! It's the icing on the cake. You can now begin to accessorize, mix and match other elements and spice things up with punches of color.
- ▶ **Color Me Beautiful:** If you love color, knock yourself out! A great way to spice up your basic blacks and neutrals is to add a dash of color. Pick a signature color for the season like turquoise or coral and use that as an accent color. Try turquoise with stark white for a fresh summer look, a la Michael Kors.

Spring Fashion 411 Trends Cont. 'd

- ▶ **Safari–** Using global influences, well-bred fashionistas are going native as African influences translate into tribal beading, sporty detailing and animal prints.

Must-Have: Wooden Bangles

Editor's pick: Carved faux ivory accessories for under \$30 at Rampage.

- ▶ **Exotica – Pssst...Skin is in!** One of the hottest tickets in leather goods are exotic skins from abroad. The most popular being snake (most often python or even Anaconda), found on everything from belts to shoes to handbags, snake charmers are all the rage. (*Careful of direct heat & irons!*)

Must-Have: Snakeskin shoes

Editor's Pick: Gucci's green pearlized Anaconda stiletto pumps, \$750 at Saks. (There are lots of knock-offs, too.)

- ▶ **Hot Colors:** Turquoise and coral are the hottest colors this season. Whether they show up as accents in clothing, actual beading or translate as actual jewelry, you can't go wrong.

We'll start on Men's Wardrobe Next Issue!

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