

School Administrators Conference 2015

Session 3. 2 – 3.15pm

How to look fabulous on a shoestring

Stephanie Rumble – Bright Red Styling

Tip No.	What to do	How to do it
1.	Invest in Classics	Buy simple classic pieces that you can wear with everything. Buy black trousers, a slim skirt, simple dress and classic jacket in your colours.
2.	Plan well	Audit your wardrobe well and make a list of what you want to buy. Don't shop on impulse and think about whether the garment goes with at least 3 others. Shop with a list and plan your purchases.
3.	Shop the sales	Check out the full price items and wait until halfway through the season and buy at half the price. If the garment is sold out in one store – chances are it will be available at another location - don't give up.
4.	Get things altered	Often we discard an item because it doesn't fit exactly. Don't let this put you off. If something is too big – discuss with the retailer whether or not you can get it taken in to fit you. Check out the hemline and other details to see if there is any leeway if it's a little too tight or short. Do not buy hoping to diet to fit into it!
5.	Visit charity shops	Many charity shops have items that haven't been worn - they often have their tags still intact. You will need some time to scout around but charity shops have a great selection of garments at a fraction of the price. Watch for smelly or damaged garments though.
6.	Use Accessories	A plain top can be transformed with a scarf or necklace. Charity shops often sell very inexpensive jewellery as do markets and bargain shops. Otherwise consider making something for yourself. Layer a couple of necklaces together for a new look. Think about adding a coloured necklace to a plain top and match the accessory to the shoes. Lipstick can also add a touch of colour and formality.
7.	Make your haircut last 10 weeks	Research the hairstyles that look good both very short and a little bit longer – discuss your options with your hairdresser. To get the most time out of your colour – do not deviate more than 3 shades darker or lighter than your natural colour. Also avoid an all over colour as you will see regrowth regardless. Foils or painted colour with a couple of shades works a lot better when its growing out.
8.	Be savvy with deals	Take the time to collect Flybys or True Rewards or some other incentive scheme to purchase clothing vouchers. Get a friend together and take advantage of a two for one deal.
9.	Swap with friends	Organise an evening where you all bring things that you are no longer wearing then swap garments with friends.
10.	Revamp old pieces	What once was a tunic could make a great top and perhaps a longer dress would work well a little shorter. Find a great dressmaker and seek their advice. Try Quick Fit Alterations in Westfield Mall 03 348 4924.

My top 10 Value Retailers

Rank	Who	Why
1.	K Mart	KMart always has something new and funky to try. With a huge selection fo clothing from size 6 – 24 there is something for everyone. The Riccarton store has recently had a makeover and is much better laid out with heaps of choice. Their clothing policy is that nothing is over \$65. So you can get a capsule wardrobe for under \$200 by really having a good look around. The bonus is that the store is open until midnight every night!
2.	Savemart	I have just recently visited the Hornby megastore and it is fantastic. There is a huge variety and all very well merchandised.
3.	The Warehouse	Again, pricing is very reasonable and selection is vast. I have had some problems with sizing in the past but their clothes are colourful and often interesting.
4.	Farmers	Farmers have the BEST sales – expensive garments get slashed to bargain prices from mid way through the season. Their pricing structure is tiered so check out all the options. Sizing is from size 6 – 24 as well.
5.	Dotti	Designed for the younger market but there are often coats and tops that suit everyone. Their stock moves really quickly so there is always something new to look at. Sizing from 6 – 14.
6.	Millars	Targeted for the more mature market. Some great fresh looks and excellent selection. Pricing is very reasonsble and sizes from 8 – 22.
7.	Valleygirl	Caters mainly to the younger market with very on trend pieces. Sizing is small 6 – 12 and a small fit.
8.	Glassons	An iconic NZ brand. They do basics like singlets, merinos and cardigans well and make great coats in winter for under \$100. Stock moves quickly and they have a fresh look every week. Sizing from 6 – 18. Sales are fantastic and they offer a great online service as well.
9.	Supre	Small fitting teen oriented store with great singlets and basics. Size XXXS to XL. A size 10 equates to M.
10.	No 1 Shoe Warehouse	MY theory is if you have enough of the shoes on offer at No1 they won't wear out and look shabby quickly. Only one pair worn all the time will get very untidy very quickly. No1 offers a very good on-trend selection of shoes and boot with sale goods being very affordable. Just try on and do a few laps of the store before you buy. If they are too tight then don't buy as they will most likely be synthetic and are unlikely to stretch to the foot as leather will. Great place for an occasion shoe that wil not get a lot of wear.