

**10 ways to save while looking
your best!**



SAVE MONEY

while looking

YOUR BEST

LIVE WELL UTAH

Looking your best is an important part of your image. But it doesn't have to break the bank. You can look amazing and save at the same time.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2010), the average American spent \$1,700 on apparel and related services in 2010. Even though the last statistic on consumer expenditures was released in 2010, the current economic situation can suggest that Americans are interested in ways to save money on apparel to maintain a certain look for personal and professional life.

Here are 10 ways that individuals and families can save money on apparel and clothing related items.

1. Consider the quality and durability of the new clothing that you purchase. Clothing that is well constructed and sturdy will last longer than some of the inexpensive choices available. Choose those few pieces that add to your wardrobe, not take it in a new direction.
2. When purchasing new clothing, consider buying items that mix and match with clothing that you already own. By selecting classic choices, you broaden the use and versatility of your wardrobe.
3. If you have extra time, shopping at consignment or thrift stores can open up your wardrobe creatively and affordably.
4. Watch out for metal hangers. They stretch your clothing out of shape. Use wooden or plastic hangers depending on the fibers of your clothing.
5. Gather your friends and family and host a clothing swap where you can trade clothing with those you know. With more people involved, the better selection you will have.
6. Before purchasing, simply ask yourself, "Do I need this?" If you make a list before you go shopping, it

will be easier to stick to it.

7. Natural fibers may require more attention by the wearer (ironing, etc), but synthetic fibers can wear out faster and don't always wear as well.
8. Buying clothing at an outlet mall doesn't always mean you are getting the best deal. Comparing prices before you purchase can save you money in the long run.
9. We all have those items that we don't wear anymore, but are still in great shape. Sell previously loved clothing from your closet to free up space and create a funding source for new clothing.
10. The more you wash your clothing, the faster it will wear out. Make sure you treat stains quickly to prevent them from becoming permanent. Avoid clothing that is dry clean only, as going to the cleaners frequently can be expensive.

This article was written by Margie Memmott and Lindsey Shirley, USU Extension.