

a la mode

Beat winter wardrobe blahs with chart, imagination, white

By CHRISTINE WALDEN

It's hardly mid-winter. St. Nick didn't bring you any new clothes, the old ones seem boring and people are starting to ask where you got your uniform.

Don't worry. You've just got a bad case of the before-mid-winter I-don't-care-what-I-look-like blahs.

Well, open up your closet, clean out your drawers and get ready to re-vamp—or at least switch around—your wardrobe.

Instead of always wearing the rust blazer with its matching rust skirt, try the blazer with black and the skirt with grey.

Stop wearing the same necklace with the same sweater with the same pants with the same shoes.

In other words, break your traditional dressing habits, use your imagination and switch colors, accessories and basics for a cold weather pick-me-up.

Before you do anything, though, take inventory of what you've got. Often a new outfit is hanging right before your eyes without your realizing it.

ONE OF THE BEST ways to take inventory and restructure your wardrobe is with a chart.

On a sheet of poster board draw a grid. On the left side specifically list your basic or favorite garments, i.e.

black pants, beige dress, camel skirt. Along the top of the grid list general accessories such as blouses, jackets, sweaters, jewelry, shoes, scarves, hosiery and belts.

Now, go through the closet and fill in the squares according to what goes with what. Then go a step further and see what new combinations are possible.

Once the chart is complete, it will help you experiment and may even give you some fresh ideas.

Also, if there are blanks on the chart after you've gone over everything, you then will know what to buy to make all your clothes wearable.

FOR THOSE individuals with an advanced case of the blahs, the chart probably did little for you. You look in your closet and the clothes are still the same; however, there still remain alternatives to joining a nudist camp.

Try wearing the clothes differently. Tuck pants into boots or if you have pants that are too short, cut them off into gauchos.

Instead of tautly tucking in a shirt, blouse it for a fuller look.

Wear shoes and matching hose instead of boots.

Belt a long sweater, put a blouse under a dress or try pants under a jumper (careful on proportions).

If none of that works, buy something.

A great way to cheer-up in cold

weather is with winter white. Anything in that creamy color, be it pants, skirts, sweaters or dresses, adds life to a black, grey and brown wardrobe. It's an easily accessorized and rich looking color that won't go out of style.

PICK UP A new vest. In a neutral color it can go under blazers, over old blouses and teams up with skirts and pants for a new look.

If accessories are your weakness, invest in a brand-new piece of jewelry. A new necklace works wonders on a three-year-old turtleneck or a two-year-old dress.

Buy a belt with a nifty buckle, pin on a silk flower or tie on an exotic scarf.

Get a new pair of shoes that are different not only in style, but in color, from your everyday pump. Then get a pair of stockings to match.

Finally, try a new make-up. If you've worn one certain shade all of '75, it's time for a new one. Get something smoky and soft and then learn how to put it on. Top it all with a new hairdo.

Beating those mid-winter wardrobe blahs isn't easy. It takes some time, but it also can be fun. So what if you look a little kooky some days? Weird looks are better than blank stares, and at least you won't be bored.



Add a vest to your wardrobe for winter spunk.



Pants too short? Cut them into culottes.

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Fashion Calendar

Jan. 7-8—Informal modeling of the Shibley-Coffey Collection at Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Mall.

Jan. 16-17—Informal modeling of the Albert Capraro collection at Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Mall.

Jan. 18-20—Informal modeling of the Ernst Straus coat and suit collection.

CLUB SHOWS
FEB. 16—The Daughters of Varian will have a luncheon and fashion show by Himechocha at noon at St. John's Armenian Church Cultural Center, 2281 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. Call Mrs. Mardig Hatcherian at 353-6823 for reservations.

LUNCHEON SHOWS

Tuesdays—Informal modeling by Alvin at Cooper's Arms Restaurant, Rochester.

Wednesdays—Informal modeling by Alvin at the Troy Hilton Haymarket, Troy.

Wednesdays—Informal modeling by Towers East at the Michigan Inn, Southfield.

Fridays—Informal modeling by Alvin at Bedell's, Bloomfield Hills.

For consideration of listings write: Fashion Calendar, 1225 Bowers, Birmingham, 48012.

Oakland YWCA is registering

Registering for winter activities at the Oakland branch YWCA, 639 S. Crooks, Clawson, is being held this week.

The schedule is 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, Jan. 5, 6 and 8, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7 and 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon Friday, Jan. 9.

Mail registrations will be opened Wednesday. Classes will begin later in the month.

Adult physical fitness programs will include classes in aquatics, balletic exercise, shape-up, swimming, tennis, golf, middle east dance, yoga, ballet, tap and modern dance and a sports club.

Arts and crafts activities for adults will be ceramics, basic art, chair caning, beading, advanced needlepoint, patchwork and quilting and sewing, needlepoint and sewing machine crafts.

Other adult classes and workshops include Chinese cooking I and II, dried flower arranging, Easter candles, puffed pillows, bags and English muffins, assorted crepe dishes and Lenten baking.

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Lecture - discussion groups to be conducted will be Great Decisions '76, contemporary literature, antique glass, "Is That You Out There?" and Transactional Analysis.
Child care is available during day-time classes.
The youth activities will include youth art, arts and crafts for youth, ceramics, guitar, ballet, tap, modern dance, tumbling and gymnastics. A special workshop for girls is titled "Images."

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