

## CHAPTER 17

# Exploring Options

### OBJECTIVES

- Evaluate your wardrobe in order to identify and prioritize additions.
- Identify available resources for building a wardrobe.
- Compare different ways of expanding a wardrobe.
- Describe differences between department, specialty, discount, and resale stores.

### KEY TERMS

boutique  
creativity  
department  
store  
discount store  
economical  
inventory  
off-price  
retailers

outlet  
prioritize  
resale store  
resourceful  
specialty store  
versatile  
vintage  
wardrobe plan

### EXAMINETHISISSUE

**Shopping safety.** Internet shopping is common today. Some people, however, hesitate to place personal information, especially credit card numbers, where they see a potential for misuse. Others are not concerned because they feel safe using Internet sites identified as secure, where data is encoded to make it unavailable to others on the Internet. These shoppers believe personal information may be more vulnerable when distributed through other shopping methods.

#### What do you think?

What are your thoughts about shopping on-line? Do you think Internet shopping is as safe as other methods? Why or why not?

### Step 1: Take Inventory

Do you know what clothes you own? Are there some hidden in the back of your closet or deep in drawers? Just as retailers identify the merchandise in their stores before reordering, you can take a clothing inventory before deciding what to replace in your wardrobe.

An **inventory** is a list of items on hand. To take inventory of the clothes and accessories you own, you'll need a place to list everything. A wardrobe chart like the one on page 304 is a handy tool. With it, you can collect and organize information while examining your wardrobe. Begin your chart by listing the items you own in the first column and entering a short description of each one in the second column.

### Step 2: Evaluate Items

As you list items while taking inventory, evaluate their usefulness and condition. Ask yourself how often you wear or use each item. Like most people, you probably have garments that you wear often and some that you seldom wear. To check condition, note how worn the item is and what repairs could be made. Write this information in the third column of your wardrobe chart.

### Step 3: Develop an Action Plan

As you evaluate each item, decide what to do with it and enter that information in the fourth column of the chart. You might choose to keep,

**I**N A WELL-KNOWN FAIRY TALE, *Cinderella* attends the ball because her fairy godmother and a host of industrious mice make her wardrobe dreams come true. In real life, no such magic exists.

Putting a wardrobe together can be both exciting and challenging. Fortunately, you can create your own wardrobe magic by using resources effectively. Take some time to evaluate your wardrobe and look at all your options before dashing out to shop.

### EVALUATING YOUR WARDROBE

With just five basic steps, you can evaluate your wardrobe and develop a plan for building the wardrobe you want. The steps are listed in Fig. 17-1. Here's how to accomplish each step.

**17-1** By following these steps, you can evaluate your wardrobe and plan for future additions.

#### Steps in Wardrobe Planning

- Step 1. Take inventory of clothes and accessories.
- Step 2. Evaluate the condition and usefulness of each item.
- Step 3. Develop an action plan of what to do with each item.
- Step 4. Consider what new items to add.
- Step 5. Set priorities for a wardrobe plan.



# HOW TO MAKE A WARDROBE CHART

A wardrobe chart provides a handy tool for evaluating the clothing you own and planning wardrobe additions. The sample shown here is part of one teen's chart. Other categories might include dresses, skirts, pants suits, athletic wear, shorts, T-shirts, sleepwear, underwear, socks/hosiery, belts, scarves/ties, hats, and jewelry.

Sample Wardrobe Chart

CLOTHING ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	EVALUATION OF CONDITION AND USEFULNESS	ACTION PLAN	PRIORITY OF ITEMS TO BUY OR REPLACE
Coats/Jackets				
Down coat	Full length, black	Good	Keep	
Woolen jacket	Short length, beige	Old, very worn	Need to replace	2
Pants/Slacks				
Chinos	Long, beige	New	Keep	
Jeans	Blue denim	Old but usable	Keep	
Corduroy pants	Black twill		New purchase; want to have	5
Shirts/Blouses				
Blue denim	Long sleeves	Worn but like it	Keep	
Sport shirt	Green plaid; short sleeves	Two buttons missing	Repair and use	
Sweaters				
Vest	Plaid	Neck worn; out of date	Don't; don't replace	
Cardigan	Red, long sleeves	Shrink; sleeves too short	Give away; want to replace with green one	4
Shoes/Boots				
Loafers	Brown	Scuffed; soles very thin	Need to replace	3
Athletic shoes	Black		New purchase; need for basketball	1

## Exploring Wardrobe Charts

Create your own wardrobe chart on paper or computer. With a computerized chart, you can easily review and update your wardrobe plan. You could use a word-processing table or a spreadsheet.



**17-2** Deciding what to do with clothes can be difficult. Some people can't part with anything, yet others like to streamline their closet, keeping only what they wear. Which type are you?

save the cost of new shoes. Make note of what you plan to do. **See p. 530**

- **Is the item outgrown or too worn for wear?** If you need the item, note in your chart that it needs to be replaced. Outgrown or unwanted garments can be passed along to others. Perhaps the fabric can be recycled.

### Step 4: Consider New Additions

In your wardrobe chart, the plan for each item stands out clearly, but you may notice something else. Your wardrobe may have some gaps. Would a new pair of wool slacks allow you to make better use of a sweater you already own? Could you make several different outfits if you had a new black blazer? To help you decide whether an additional garment would improve your wardrobe, think about your needs and wants.

#### Distinguishing Needs and Wants

To young children, needs and wants are the same. They "need" a cupcake the same way they need pencils for school. Teens can distinguish between needs and wants more clearly. One teen decided he needed a sturdy pair of shoes for school and a dressy pair for special occasions because these were essential. Since a certain brand of cross-trainers and a stylish pair of suede boots weren't essential, he realized that he only wanted them.

As a student, your clothing needs are influenced by what's acceptable in school. Many school dress codes are flexible: jeans, T-shirts, pants, skirts, and sweaters are all options. Other schools have dress codes that prohibit specific clothing styles and accessories. Some schools require students to wear uniforms.



**17-3** A clothing need is something essential that you must have. A special garment or uniform for a part-time job fits this description.

Students who work part-time may need appropriate garments. A restaurant, for example, might provide a uniform or ask that employees wear shirts or blouses of a certain style and color. See Fig. 17-3.

Wants arise more from emotions than necessity. A desire to impress others or fit in with peers can make a person want a particular garment. Wearing a special garment makes some people feel attractive, confident, slimmer, taller, or shorter. As a status symbol, a garment makes some people feel important. One teen may want to wear something that shows conformity, yet another wants something that expresses individuality. What other reasons might inspire wants?

#### Deciding What to Add

Wardrobe additions rarely fulfill needs and wants equally. Buying a new pair of jeans meets a need if you've outgrown the ones you wear all the time. If you choose the same style that your friends are wearing, you're also fulfilling a want.

Values help you decide what's more important. Should you spend more for designer jeans or buy a pair of regular jeans on sale and use the savings for something else?

To help you decide whether to buy something new, think about the questions below. If you decide to make an addition, add the item to your chart.

- **How often would you wear the item?** Some people are more willing to spend money on a down coat to wear all winter than on a velvet jacket to wear only a few times.
- **Can the item be worn for different occasions?** Garments are versatile when they can be worn for more than one activity, perhaps to school as well as parties. See Fig. 17-4.
- **Will the item go with other clothes in your wardrobe?** A teen who owns a blue blazer, khaki pants, red sweater, and a plaid skirt might buy a shirt in a solid color that goes with all of them. The result is more than one new outfit. Such items make a wardrobe seem larger.
- **Is the item a need or a want?** A wardrobe can include items you want because they're fun, unique, or up-to-date. Meeting clothing needs first, however, is the higher priority. The best additions to a wardrobe are clothes and accessories that satisfy both needs and wants.



**17-4** A versatile school outfit like this one might be worn for other occasions as well.

## Fashion Facts

**AN EXTENDED LIFE.** At one time, the Chinese government urged citizens to wear a garment for nine years. Any article less than three years old was considered new. Even after six years, it could still be mended for an extended useful life. The policy succeeded in instilling a sense of frugality and practicality. It worked too well, in fact. Later, Chinese leaders tried to improve the economy by increasing the manufacture and buying of goods. People had to be encouraged to buy new clothes in order to energize the textile industry.

you can do. When money is limited, you may need to adjust your wardrobe plan. You could take the lowest-priority items out of the plan. You might want two new shirts, but one will do. You could earn money for clothes from an after-school, weekend, or summer job. See Fig. 17-5. You can also turn to other resources to put your plan into action.

- **Skills.** Your skills and abilities can help your money go further. Using good consumer skills, you recognize bargains when you see them. Buying clothes on sale or at discount stores can bring added savings. By developing sewing skills, you can make simple repairs, update garments, and expand your wardrobe with new clothes and accessories. You might even earn money by sewing or altering clothes for others. See p. 538.
- **Creativity.** Making a creative look inside your closet might have interesting results. Creativity is the ability to use your imagination to come up with an original idea or prod-

### Step 5: Set Priorities

The final step in your wardrobe evaluation is to **prioritize**, or rank, items so you know which ones to replace or add first. Scan the chart, looking at the new items you've listed and the items marked for replacement. Those you need the most should be given the highest priority. Garments that you can get by without for a while are lower priority. Those that are least essential get the lowest priority ranking. Numbers can be used to indicate priority in the last column of your chart.

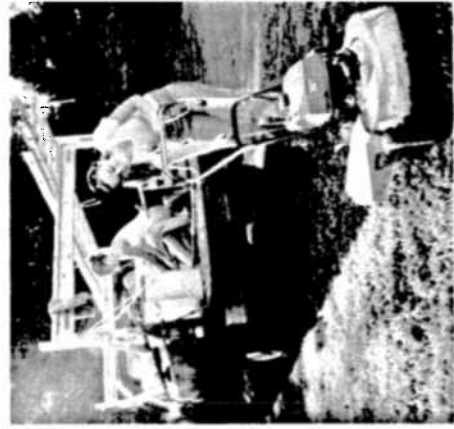
With your chart completed, you have a **wardrobe plan** in place. This is a guide for making future additions to your wardrobe. By reviewing the plan every few months, you can make adjustments as your needs and wants change.

### IDENTIFYING YOUR RESOURCES

How can you build the wardrobe you want? Many people think only of money as a resource, but there are others as well. **Resourceful** people identify all the means and methods they have for accomplishing goals.

- **Money.** A wardrobe plan shows what you need and want, but your budget affects what

**17-5** Some teens find ways to earn money in order to buy new clothes. What other resources can a person use to build a wardrobe?



uct. In the last chapter, you learned a number of ways to redesign garments. These ideas help expand a wardrobe. You'll find other ways to use your creativity for the same purpose later in this chapter.

- **Time.** How can time help you with your wardrobe plan? If you have extra time, you can shop for bargains, develop sewing skills, or be creative. If time is limited due to school, work, or other activities, use your time wisely. When shopping, decide what you need and where to find it, instead of traveling from store to store. If you like to sew, set aside some time during school vacations to make new outfits. Save time by choosing easy-to-sew patterns.

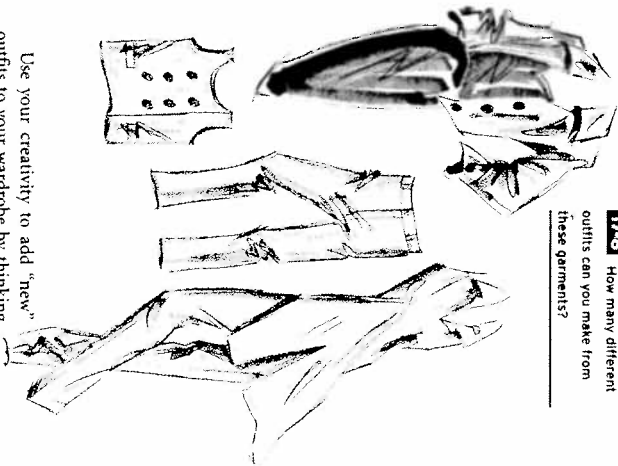
- **Other People.** As you consider resources, don't overlook people. Siblings, cousins, and friends may pass along garments. Coats, jackets, and prom dresses often go this route. Do you have relatives who like to knit or sew? Perhaps they would knit a sweater, make curtains for your room, or teach you to knit or sew. A clothing teacher might give advice about restyling a garment. All of these can be valuable resources for expanding your wardrobe.

## WAYS TO EXPAND YOUR WARDROBE

With your resources in mind, your wardrobe goals may be closer than you think. How can you put your money and time to good use? How can your skills and creativity help expand your wardrobe? Can you find ways for people to help you, and perhaps for you to help them in return? You might be surprised at the number of ways you can put your resources to work in order to build the wardrobe you want.

### Using What You Have

A gifted chef can open the refrigerator and make a delicious meal out of whatever's inside. This approach also works in expanding your wardrobe. Sometimes what you need is right there in the closet or dresser.



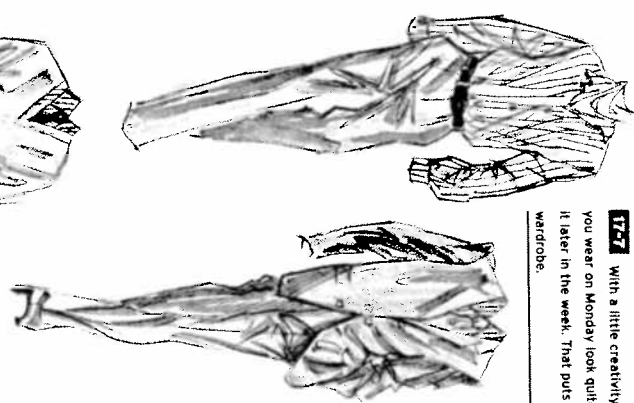
**17-6** How many different outfits can you make from these garments?

Use your creativity to add "new" outfits to your wardrobe by thinking of different ways to wear the clothes you already own. What's more, this method is **economical** because it doesn't cost anything, which saves money for other uses.

### Creating New Combinations

Sometimes a clothing combination seems so right that you never separate the pieces. Why not try pairing each item with a different garment? Can you mix and match the garments in two outfits? A matching skirt and top, or pants and jacket, don't always have to be worn together. See Fig. 17-6.

Experiment with new color mixes as well. During some seasons, unusual combinations, such as purple and red, are very fashionable. Black pants look good with a bright red sweater, but how would they look with a dark green or pale beige sweater, or topped by a gray-and-white tweed blazer?



**17-7** With a little creativity, you can make a garment you wear on Monday look quite different when you wear it later in the week. That puts some "stretch" in your wardrobe.

Different fabric combinations also give clothes a new look. Compare the effects of pairing a corduroy jacket with denim jeans and the same jacket with wool slacks. In some seasons, combining more than one print in an outfit is the fashion. Checks might be worn with stripes, and prints with plaids. Patterns and colors must be carefully matched, however, to create an outfit that pleases the eye and looks fashionable.

### Finding New Uses

When is a tie not a tie? When it's used as a belt. Likewise, a denim shirt can become a lightweight jacket when worn over a T-shirt. With a little experimentation, you may find new ways to wear clothes you already own. See Fig. 17-7.

Clothing can be surprisingly versatile. A raincoat with a zip-out lining might be worn year-round. A turtleneck typically worn with blue jeans could also be worn with pants and a sweater for a dressier look. A vest worn most often under a jacket might be worn over a dress or shirt. A sundress might double as a jumper. A change of accessories could transform an outfit from casual to dressy.

One simple technique is changing the way you wear a particular garment. You could tuck pants into boots, belt a loose-fitting jacket, and layer tops in a different order. Many up-to-date ideas can be found in fashion magazines.

### Designing New Looks

One teen noticed her sister's denim jacket in the garage sale box. It was still in good shape, so she offered her sister two dollars for it. After the teen trimmed it with rhinestones, her sister said, "That looks great. Why didn't I think of that?"

Two dollars is a small investment for a "new" denim jacket. With a little creativity, you can come up with other ideas. Why not decorate gar-



**17-3** By sharing or trading garments, you can expand your wardrobe and save money at the same time. What items would be good possibilities for sharing?

works especially well with special-occasion items. One mother and daughter shared a small evening bag rather than each owning one. If you share an item, take good care of it in order to keep the relationship strong.

Trading clothes with a family member or friend gives each person's wardrobe a new addition at no cost. Be sure you can part with a garment, however, before letting it go.

### Sewing

Sewing can show off your creativity, as well as save money. See Fig. 17-9. Anyone can learn to sew. To begin, learn simple skills, such as sewing buttons or stitching a hem. You'll save money by making simple repairs that extend the life of garments you already own. By updating garments

with fabric paint or trims? You could paint or applique a design on a T-shirt or add sequins to a top. Trim the hem of jeans with fringe or ribbon. As you read fashion ads and shop for clothes, look for details that you can duplicate on less expensive garments. ■ See p. 581

Adding accessories to create new looks is another idea. Flea markets and second-hand stores are good sources for inexpensive accessories. You can also make them. Braid leather or decorative cord to make a belt, or sew a canvas bag instead of buying one. Make hair ornaments from fabric, ribbons, or braid left over from other projects. Attractive jewelry can be created from beads and even modeling clay. Check out the craft area in a bookstore or library for ideas. Some craft stores provide free instructions and offer classes.

### Sharing and Trading

Friends and relatives are good resources for sharing and trading items. See Fig. 17-8. Sharing

you no longer wear, you can expand your wardrobe with little expense. Shortening a hem or taking in a seam can make a garment fit perfectly. Adding trims, embroidery, or monograms gives a new look to an old garment. ■ See p. 437

As your skills build, you can try easy-to-sew projects, such as a T-shirt or shorts. Eventually, you might make a shirt, jacket, or backpack. Home sewers can make clothes in just the size, color, and style they want.

Besides sewing clothes, how about giving rooms in your home a new look? You can find many patterns for curtains, pillows, slipcovers, bedspreads, and table linens. The cost savings can be huge compared to buying these items ready-made.

As one more use for your sewing skills, you could make gifts for family and friends. People appreciate the time and effort that goes into a one-of-a-kind gift.

### Renting

People often think of renting a car, but what about clothes? Clothes for special occasions are

**17-10** Stores are filled with so much clothing that narrowing your decision down to only a few items can be difficult. What can you do to prepare yourself for these shopping decisions?



regularly rented to save the expense of purchasing. Caps and gowns are rented for graduation. Tuxedos can be rented for school dances, weddings, and other formal events. In some cities, shops rent formal clothing for females as well as males. Uniforms and costumes can also be rented.

If an item, such as a tuxedo, will be worn several times, figure the total cost for rentals. Purchasing the garment on sale or at a resale store might be more economical.

### Buying

Shopping options are everywhere today. See Fig. 17-10. If you like hands-on buying, you can visit a store, mall, or craft fair. For shopping ease, you can stay at home and order from catalogs, television, or the Internet. Although buying to build a wardrobe can be costly, some of the most inexpensive "finds" are discovered at resale stores, flea markets, and tag sales. Each option has advantages and disadvantages.

### Stores

Buying in a store gives you a firsthand look at the merchandise. You can try on clothes to see how they look. Evaluating the style, quality, and fit is easier than when buying from only a picture and description.

Stores vary in type of merchandise, special services, and prices. See Fig. 17-11 on pages 312-313. Some specialize in certain price ranges—low, medium, or high. Others offer a range of prices within each category.

If you've shopped in different cities, you know that the same stores can be in many places. Known as chain stores, these are part of a large retail company that operates stores in many cities and towns all over the country. Department stores, specialty stores, and discount stores can all be chains. The headquarters or home office is where all merchandising decisions are made. Because chains have so many stores, the same styles may not be carried in each one. Instead, chains may buy different merchandise for stores in certain regions.

# DEPARTMENT STORES

## CATEGORIES of

**DEPARTMENT STORES** are large stores with merchandise grouped into areas according to specialty—for example, clothing, cosmetics, accessories, luggage, housewares, and sometimes appliances, electronic equipment, and furniture. Services may include gift wrapping, delivery, alterations, bridal registry, a beauty salon, repairs, interior decoration, and fashion consultation.

Clothing departments are organized by size and gender (petites, menswear), by fashion and price categories (designer, budget), and sometimes by designer collection (DKNY, Ralph Lauren, Liz Claiborne, Tommy Hilfieri).

Most department stores have one main store, usually in a city's downtown area. This flagship store oversees one or more branch stores that operate separately in nearby suburbs or faraway states. Most branches serve as an anchor in a shopping mall, helping to attract mall customers.

In addition to brand-name items, many department stores sell products with their own private label. Store ads are published almost daily in newspapers; catalogs are mailed to customers throughout the year.

Examples of major department stores are Macy's, Bloomingdale's, Lord & Taylor, Marshall Field, Dillard's, Belk, Rich's, Burdines, and May Company. Two department store chains are JCPenney and Sears.

Macy's began as one small storefront in the 1800s. Today it is a major department store, with locations across the country.

**SPECIALTY STORES** carry a limited line of merchandise, such as clothing, accessories, or fabrics. Some focus on a particular group—children, petites, or large sizes. Others sell a specific category—lingerie, swimwear, bridal gowns, jewelry, or shoes.

Small specialty stores are typically owned by one or more people. These provide personalized service, often with the owner as manager, buyer, and sales associate. A specialty store that features very fashionable or unique designs is called a **boutique**. Although prices are usually higher, boutiques appeal to customers looking for fashion-forward styles or a special look.

Specialty chain stores carry similar items with similar prices and look very much alike. Some sell only their own brand of merchandise. The Limited, Gap, Old Navy, Ann Taylor, Banana Republic, Victoria's Secret, and Payless Shoes are examples. The newest category is the subspecialty store, which carries only one type of merchandise, such as ties, socks, or athletic shoes.

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**DISCOUNT STORES** sell merchandise at less than full retail price and usually lower than in department and specialty stores. Once located in plain buildings with few services, most discount stores now have fashion displays and dressing rooms. Relying on self-service and checkout counters, they have few sales personnel. Some are chains that carry brand-name items, as well as little-known or private label brands.

Discount stores are not all the same. Stores described as mass merchandise discounters obtain lower prices from manufacturers due to their high sales volume. Examples are Wal-Mart and Target. Although they sell other products, these stores have created a role as fashion merchandisers, emphasizing price and value.

**Off-price retailers** sell brand-name and designer merchandise at reduced prices. They buy late in the fashion season when manufacturers are eager to sell at low prices. Designer labels can be found at T.J. Maxx, Marshall's, Dress Barn, Saks, and Burlington Coat Factory. Some retailers operate their own off-price stores, such as Filene's Basement, Saks Off Fifth, and Nordstrom Rack.

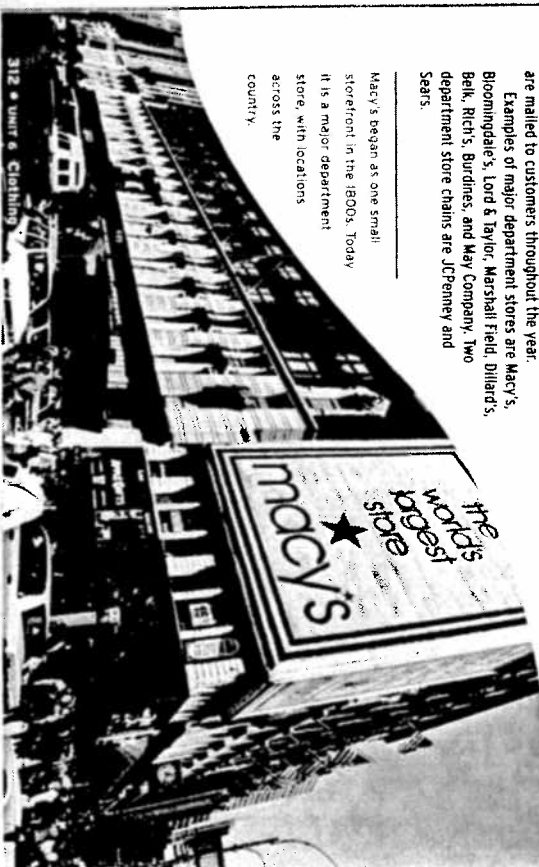
**Outlets** sell only the brands produced by the designer, manufacturer, or factory that owns the store. Some outlets are located next to the factory; others are located in malls that consist solely of outlet stores. The garments are overstocks, cancelled orders, or last season's designs. Some may have imperfections or flaws.

Discount stores like Target (below) sell enough merchandise to offer lower prices. In a thrift store (right), you might find unusual items.

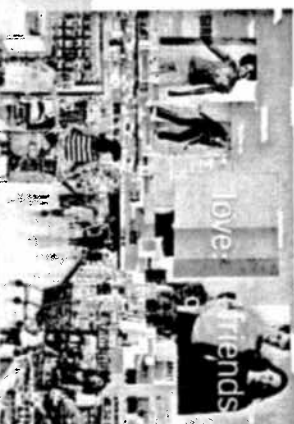
**RESALE STORES** specialize in used or second-hand clothing. Prices are less than similar new items, and all purchases are final. Items can't be exchanged or returned. Some stores sell garments that are almost new, particularly party clothes and one-of-a-kind items.

Thrift stores are resale stores owned by such organizations as a church group or charity. Clothing is inexpensive and may be in less-than-perfect condition. Most consignment stores offer clothes that are in very good condition. Although higher priced than in thrift shops, these clothes cost less than new ones.

Some resale stores specialize in **vintage** fashions from earlier decades—the 1930s to the 1980s and even the Victorian era. Depending on age, condition, and rarity, vintage clothing can be reasonably priced or very expensive.



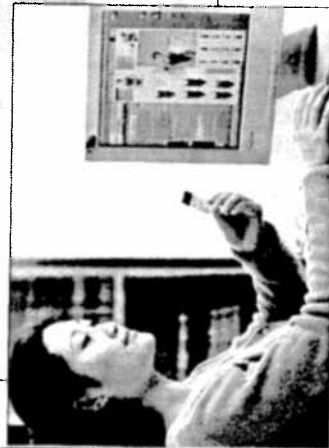
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## Trends in TECHNOLOGY

Buying has never been easier. With an on-line computer service, consumers can now go e-shopping. Using electronic shopping areas, they learn about products and also buy merchandise and services.

When you access a retailer's Web site, you may find an on-line catalog. A symbol or message indicates the site is secure. To order a product, enter the requested information. Specify size and color, if needed, and enter your credit card number and shipping address. This data travels electronically to the retailer's computer, and a return e-mail confirms your order. The retailer ships the merchandise to you by



Some stores, usually smaller, are individually owned by one or more people. The atmosphere and service may be more personalized than in larger stores. Often the sales associate is the owner or manager.

### Catalogs

Catalog shopping is a popular alternative to buying in a store. Many people like the convenience of ordering from store and mail-order cata-

## >E-SHOPPING

mail or delivery service. Once you have purchased something through a Web site, you may receive e-mails notifying you of new products and special offers.

Many manufacturers have Web sites that describe their products. If you can't order directly from these sites, a list of stores or links to other purchasing sites may be provided.

A search engine is useful when you don't know a Web address. On the search engine site, you enter a word or phrase that indicates what you want to find. An electronic hunt ends with a displayed list of possible sites. Two popular search engines are Yahoo and Excite, but there are many more. Since they handle information differently, you may need to try several search engines and different key words before finding what you want.

### INVESTIGATION ACTIVITY

Using more than one on-line search engine, locate information on a product. Try different key words to find the same product. What tips do you have for streamlining an on-line search?

products may be greater than in stores and may include items unavailable locally. When ordering, if you don't receive what you expected, most items can be returned with no questions asked.

Among the disadvantages to catalog shopping is not being able to examine the actual article. Colors and details may not be clear. Getting the proper fit is harder when you can't try on a garment. The wait for delivery can take from several days to several weeks. Other disadvantages involve extra costs. Shipping and handling costs are usually added. If the catalog doesn't have a toll-free number, you pay for a long distance call. Finally, to return or exchange an item, you have to repack and mail it. Often you pay the return shipping cost. Catalog retailers that have stores may permit customers to return items to a local store.

### Internet

The advantages and disadvantages of Internet shopping are generally the same as for catalog shopping. One important difference is that a credit card is usually necessary. Checks and money orders aren't generally accepted, although a few sites bill by mail. For more information, see page 314.

### Television

Certain television channels have 24-hour, home shopping programs that take orders for merchandise, including jewelry and designer

apparel. Home Shopping Network (HSN) and QVC are the largest of these services.

After merchandise is shown and described, a host usually urges viewers to order by calling a toll-free number. Customers pay for the items with a credit card, and the merchandise is sent within a day or two.

Television shopping can be easy and convenient, but the shows do promote impulse buying. If you evaluate your wardrobe needs and budget before ordering, you'll avoid buying regrets.

### At-Home Selling

At-home retailers sell merchandise to individuals or groups in customers' homes. Often the event is designed as a "party" for the hostess and friends. A sales representative displays or demonstrates such items as clothing, lingerie, jewelry, or cosmetics. Orders are taken and the items are delivered later.

Merchandise offered through at-home selling is usually high quality. It may be higher priced, however, than similar items in stores. Sometimes customers feel pressured to order items they may not need because of the host's hospitality and the party atmosphere. If you're invited to a party event, set a spending limit before attending.

### Fairs and Flea Markets

At indoor and outdoor fairs and flea markets, people rent booths in a parking lot, field, school, shopping mall, church, or club. Craft fairs usually feature handmade clothing and accessories. Bazaars and flea markets sell used clothing and accessories or new items that have been purchased directly from a manufacturer.

One or more families may hold a garage sale or tag sale. See Fig. 17-12. Just because something is sold at a low price doesn't make it a bargain. Take time to inspect any item before purchasing.



**17-12** Cash is usually expected at garage sales, and you can't return what you buy. The price, however, may be worthwhile.

## CHAPTER 17

## Review

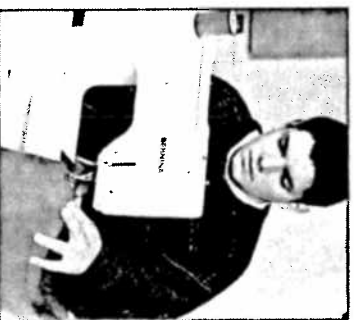
## and Activities

## CHAPTER SUMMARY

- The first step to building a wardrobe is to evaluate the usefulness of clothes you currently own.
- Prioritize clothing needs and wants when adding garments to your wardrobe.
- Consider all your resources to make the most of your current wardrobe and of any items you add to it.
- A wardrobe can be expanded in more ways than just by buying new clothes.
- You have many options for buying clothes. Each has advantages and disadvantages.

## USING KEY TERMS

Create a quiz, based on at least ten of the Key Terms in this chapter. Exchange quizzes with a partner and complete the quiz written by the other person. Return the quizzes. After checking the answers, discuss any problems you each had in answering the questions.



## RECALLING THE FACTS

1. Why is an inventory part of wardrobe evaluation?
2. What do you need to know about a garment in order to develop an action plan for your wardrobe?
3. How can comparing needs and wants help you decide whether to add a garment to your wardrobe?
4. How do you prioritize when making a wardrobe chart?
5. Why are sewing skills a valuable resource?
6. In what ways can other people be resources for meeting clothing needs?
7. How might clothing that a person already owns be used to expand a wardrobe?
8. When might renting a garment be more reasonable than buying?
9. What are some advantages of buying clothes from a store rather than a catalog?
10. What conveniences do catalogs offer?
11. Describe advantages and disadvantages of shopping at craft fairs and bazaars.
12. Give two reasons why clothing tends to be more expensive at a boutique than at a mass merchandise discount.
13. How are thrift stores and consignment stores similar and different?

## THINKING CRITICALLY

1. Which do you like to acquire more, clothes that you need or clothes that you want? Why?
2. Trading or sharing clothes doesn't work for everyone. Why do you think that's true?
3. Of the different methods available for buying clothes, which do you think is most likely to lead to overspending? Why?

## APPLYING KNOWLEDGE

1. **Need or want?** Make a quick list of five to ten clothing items that you've thought about owning. Then determine whether each is a need or a want. What conclusions can you reach about yourself?
2. **Advising a friend.** Suppose a friend says that he or she just can't let go of old clothes. Everything stays in the closet year after year whether it's worn or not. What would your advice be? What reasons can you give to your friend in order to be convincing?
3. **Wardrobe chart.** Make your own wardrobe chart, using the steps described in the chapter.
4. **Creating uses.** List five garments in your wardrobe. Describe two new ways to wear each one.

## CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

Suppose a fire recently damaged the home of someone in your class at school. Although no one was injured, flames and smoke caused major losses, including to clothes. Your classmate has lost most of her wardrobe, and you and your friends want to help her rebuild.

## Think Creatively

What resources described in the chapter could you all use to help your classmate? What actions would you take to put these resources to work?