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Looking Great On-The-Go

Short on Time? Try These Looks

By: Leslie Quander Wooldridge

Okay, so you're busy. Whether you're a swamped student, a harried mom or a busy young professional, don't let time constraints keep you from looking great this winter.

First thing's first: being comfortable and warm does not have to look frumpy. If you know you're dashing off to class, and then out to meet a friend for a study group, put in a little effort to give your weekday look some flair. Instead of that natty college sweatshirt and those oversized sweat pants, try a color-coordinated cotton jogging suit (but please, say no to the velour this season). You can also focus on adding one great accessory, like a complementary pair of soft leather sneakers (don't be afraid of color here), just to make sure everyone knows that you have a little style while you're stuck in the library again.

For moms out there, it can be difficult to have the time to dress yourself well if you're busy trying to get those little angels off to school. If you're on the go, make sure to carry a travel hairbrush with you—a neat ponytail can be your best accessory. Also, since you may be watching your children as they play in the snow, get a great pair of waterproof boots and put them with your favorite broken-in jeans, a simple long-sleeve t-shirt, and a fitted hooded jacket. Don't forget the matching gloves and hat along with your overcoat—just giving a little attention to the smaller details can make your outfit go a long way.

And finally, there are so many busy professionals who believe they don't have time to put together a sleek outfit for work, justifying their lack of preparation by saying that there's barely time to grab a cereal bar for breakfast on the way out the door. For you professionals, who frantically wonder how it's possible to coordinate a fabulous ensemble before leaving to battle notoriously bad beltway traffic or running to the Metro, please don't despair. If you maintain a few basic wardrobe staples, your morning trip to the office should be a breeze, and you'll arrive looking and feeling great. First, every working woman should have a great blazer that has a flattering shape while still giving an authoritative edge. Try an at-the-waist, earth-toned jacket to remind you of crisp autumn days while still keeping you warm for the winter. Match that basic blazer with a lightweight, v-neck sweater (no button-down shirts—there's no time to iron) and a pair of slacks or a pencil skirt along with low-heeled, pointy-toed shoes. Who says you can't get dressed in less than 15 minutes?

Whoever you are, attending to the details of fashion by adding a cute pair of shoes and a great bag to each outfit (whether to carry books for school, diapers for the baby, or that important presentation you've been working on) can go a long way to help you look put together every day—even when you're rushing.

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