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How to extend the life of your wardrobe

By redlipslonglashes on March 5, 2014



By: Danielle Todd

More and more, I'm moving away from fast fashion. These days, I prefer to spend more money on quality pieces, rather than a lot cheaper clothes designed to last for one season. Without proper care though, even the highest quality garments will fail to stand the test of time.

When it comes to caring for your fabrics, the manufacturers instructions for laundering are a good place to start, but you can prolong the life of your wardrobe even further with a few additional tips and accessories.

Quality clothing can be expensive, and you want them to last as long as possible. With these simple tools below, you will not only lengthen the life of your favourite pieces, but also save money on laundry and dry cleaning (of course, if you're like me, that saved money is often spent on new clothes!)

#1. Steamer

Chances are you're washing your clothes too much. We have a tendency to launder our garments after every wear in the name of hygiene. What we don't realize is that over washing can be damaging to our clothes. The harsh chemicals in soap, the agitation of the washing machine, and heat from the dyer all contribute to the deterioration of fabrics. Dry cleaning isn't much better. Long-term use of solvents can also break down the fibers in your clothes.



Instead, you can refresh your clothing between washes with a steamer. It's also great for removing wrinkles, and it's much faster and kinder to delicate fabrics than an iron. Trust me, this is the most indispensable laundry tool you will ever buy.

#2. Sweater Comb

Pilling is inevitable in the life of a sweater. It's caused by the garment rubbing together, and will occur on the sides and under the arms of your wool and cashmere sweaters, whether they cost \$10



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looking brand new.

#3. Lingerie Bag

I've been told that you should never machine wash your bras. Handwashing lingerie is the way to go, but I just don't have the time. I throw my bras in the washing machine on a delicate cycle, along with my other under-things. As a precaution though, I use a lingerie bag. It not only protects your bras from getting mangled in the wash, but also prevents the rest of you laundry from getting snagged by hooks or fasteners.



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