

WARDROBE PLANNING

Coordinating a wardrobe seems like an impossible task to most people. If you break your wardrobe down into small units you can see the possibilities and can make a plan.

The concept of this plan is to create a wheel. The wheel is like that of a car. The center hub cap, the spokes, and the tire are the parts of the wheel. You can easily see the possible combinations of your wardrobe wheel as you do the following:

1. Cut three round pieces of heavy paper into circles measuring 12", 9" and 3" in diameter. Attach the three circles together with a swivel brad in the center of the circles. Each circle should be able to turn freely.
2. Place any article of clothing in the center as the hub of your wheel. (Use the miniature clothing sketches provided or draw your own.)
3. Arrange, like the spokes of a wheel, the garments that can be worn with the hub. If the center is a "bottom" such as pants or skirts, then the second layer or circle must be any article of clothing worn with the main item, such as sweaters, blouses, jacket, etc.
4. The outer rim contains the garments or accessories which complete the outfit. Sometimes you will not need an accessory or a third garment. At other times you might wear more than one item from the accessory row at the same time, such as a vest or a piece of jewelry.

Turn the wheels to see the various possibilities. You can have many wheels in your wardrobe. Each wheel should be developed enough to provide a variety of changes before you start a second wheel for a similar type of activity. Some wheels are limited in scope, such as an active sports clothing wheel. Other wheels may be quite flexible, providing outfits for a number of activities, from casual to dressy.

Not all wardrobe wheels are mix and match. The center of a wheel may be a single outfit such as a jumper or coat dress. Business suits are seldom separated, so they should be treated as a single outfit. Select one garment or outfit you own that fits into this category. List five items you own that might fit into a second circle of the wheel to change its look for different occasions.

