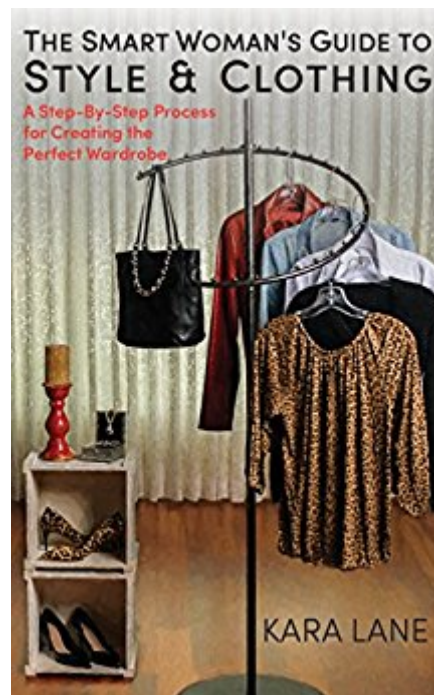




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# The Smart Woman's Guide To Style & Clothing: A Step-By-Step Process For Creating The Perfect Wardrobe



## Synopsis

If you have too many clothes but nothing to wear, you might want to read *The Smart Woman's Guide to Style & Clothing*. Do you have clothes that do not fit well, do not flatter you, or do not go with anything else in your closet? This is a common problem that occurs when we buy the wrong clothes for the wrong reasons. Fortunately, author Kara Lane researched the issue and found a solution. She developed a system for creating a versatile, stylish, personalized wardrobe. You can create the perfect wardrobe for you by shopping mindfully and following the steps in the *Style & Clothing System*.

Step 1: Identify wardrobe needs based on your lifestyle  
Step 2: Select the wardrobe classics that appeal to you  
Step 3: Choose your colors, patterns, and clothing styles  
Step 4: Know what fits and flatters your body  
Step 5: Decide what quality and quantity of clothing you want  
Step 6: Pick your shoes, handbags, jewelry, and other accessories  
Step 7: Choose your preferred brands and stores  
Step 8: Put together outfits and consult style resources as needed  
Step 9: Analyze, declutter, and organize your wardrobe  
Step 10: Complete your *Style & Clothing Checklist*

If you use the *Style & Clothing System* to guide future purchases, you will simplify your life and create a wardrobe you will love!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

finally clear your closet of the clothes you never wear! Kara enables you to organize and use what you already own.

This is the best style book I've read in years. Unlike some style guides that focus on the latest trends or bring up "French chic" ad nauseam, this book provides real style advice for real women. The author explains why we end up with a closet full of clothes we don't like and then offers a solution. She provides detailed instructions on how to create a stylish wardrobe that fits your lifestyle, body, and personality. I really liked the "Style & Clothing Checklist." There's a copy of it in the back of the book, but you can also download it from her website. What's cool about it is that you can take what you learn in the book about flattering colors, classic styles, recommended brands, etc. and then customize it to fit YOU using the worksheet provided. Then you can take the list with you when you shop, so you'll only buy what you want, need, and look good wearing "and you can stop buying things on impulse that you won't wear. I also liked that the book had images (a surprising number of style books don't). The pictures were of clothes the author actually owns, so rather than showing high-end designer clothing, these are the types of clothes you can buy at more affordable places like Macy's, J. Crew, or Nordstrom.

I purchased this to help my daughter (a tween) to sort through her clothes. She gets huge bags of very nice hand-me-downs from friends, but can't possibly wear them all. She said the book helped her a lot. I agree with her because I've seen that it has helped her put together outfits that are both dignified and stylish.

If you think you know everything about picking the right shoe or accessories for your outfit, you may be surprised! This book is a gem for telling you what really goes with what and why! One of the best books on fashion and simple dressing I've ever read! The author is honest and never haughty or pretentious concerning designer clothing! In other words, you can choose whatever brand you want, and she will tell you how to wear it correctly. You will look just as good as someone who spent a fortune on clothes! It's all about what looks good on you and how to put it all together! Great book for teens, young adults, and even seniors! She has it covered for all of us.

Author Kara Lane is an accountant/CPA. She uses the analytical skills she developed in this profession and focuses them on the subject of your closet, purchases, and putting together a stylish, versatile, and personalized wardrobe. She points out that the average woman only wears 20% of the clothes in her closet. That doesn't surprise me at all. She gives us tools to put together a system for our style, clothing, and accessories, which makes common sense. For instance, she describes a simple outfit and how drastically the accessories can change it. She's also quite witty. She tells a story of an InStyle photo where the model was wearing a one-sleeved leather jacket that hooked around the neck, a mesh bra, and a skirt adorned with ostrich feathers. Who on earth would wear such a thing in everyday life? She compares it to the sarcastic bumper sticker "Your mother dresses you funny, well the fashion industry is your mother so be careful about taking her advice." She provides advice on creating a wardrobe that looks and feels good, and focuses on quality over quantity. I really liked her description of classic clothing. She points out that classics are simple, they aren't heavily adorned, and you won't find flash in the pan items like harem pants, short shorts, or padded shoulders. Instead they will be items that are simple and will be in style this year or in ten years. She even suggests that you could build a whole wardrobe out of the classics. She suggests one bottom for every three tops, which makes sense. She also suggests you pick a couple of heel heights and use those to wear with pants so that you don't have to find pants to match 5 different heel heights. She recommends a full-length mirror, and I totally agree with her. Sometimes the best-laid plans just don't look that great on and you don't find out until you're standing in front of the mirror. I also like her clothing care suggestions, no fabric softener (which I hate anyway), cold water prevents fading, turn clothing inside out, dry-clean sparingly, hand dry most items. She has whole section on retail and gives their return, alteration, and shipping policy. I learned a lot reading that section. A fun added bonus is at the end of the book she describes the process she went through in writing and publishing this book. If you are interested in having a more logical and organized wardrobe, this book is helpful. I suspect it is a guide that can become a reference, where you go back to it from time to time. I understand she is coming out with a paperback version of the book, and I will definitely buy several copies and give them as gifts to my fashion friends.

I knew, a few pages into this book, that this one is a keeper for my small collection. Author gives details and lists which are so helpful for a fashion floundering person like me. I got a great deal of

info and inspiration from this great book. Because author is not in the fashion industry, there is not that bias present which I've noticed in other books. And I LOVE her recommendations for clothing lines which leave out the unattainable, expensive lines but rather concentrate on us regular working people!! Bravo Ms. Lane, I will buy the other books you've written because I love your easy-to-understand style of writing. Update: I got an important lesson from this book, to leave one inch between your closet hangers. I worked with this for a while, and realized I did have summer clothes mixed in with winter ones, and removing those has improved my closet greatly. Buy it, read it!!!

As a Wardrobe Stylist for the past 11 years, I found Kara's book to be a very fresh take on building a wardrobe. There are many, many books out there offering wardrobe advice, books telling women what TO wear and what NOT to wear. Kara's book doesn't tell a woman what her style should be, but rather helps a woman discover that on her own using a series of steps in the process she proposes. I believe this is the true path to finding one's own perfect style and then building the perfect wardrobe from there. Kudos on a job well done. I am gifting Kara's book to my clients who desire to use a system to build a streamlined, perfect-for-them wardrobe.

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