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Saks Fifth Avenue

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Everyone has a fail-safe outfit they reach for when they don’t have the energy to think of an entirely new ensemble, especially in the colder months. The last thing we want to do on a dreary fall morning is try to figure out what we’re wearing that day (even before the first cup of coffee). That’s why we, and many others, have turned to the concept of uniform dressing. The formulaic approach to styling allows us to rotate our curated selection of tried-and-true designer apparel into differing outfits we can wear over and over again.

When crafting the ideal capsule wardrobe, the first step is to consider your lifestyle. Then think of what clothes you’ll need for all those situations. We’ve simplified the process for those who might want to streamline their wardrobe without compromising personal style, of course, by starting with a few foundational pieces. With just a few strategic staples, you’ll instantly be able to create numerous outfit combinations throughout the season.

WRITTEN BY [STACI SOSLOWITZ](#)

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Isabel Marant

I. The Blazer

Whether you’re spending 9-to-5 in the office or running errands, having a sleek, tailored blazer is a crucial part of your uniform wardrobe. The effortless clothing item plays double-duty by providing a layer of warmth and elevating any outfit (even sweatpants). A simple blazer can be layered over your [fall work outfits](#) and going-out mini dresses, too. The options are truly endless, which is why blazers are key for our capsule wardrobes. When considering what kind of blazer to choose, try to stick to neutral hues and a classic shape.



Toteme, Tove

2. The Pencil Skirt

While a skirt might not seem like an obvious capsule item to have, it's making a major comeback. Our SVP and Fashion Director Roopal Patel even deemed the staple as one of the biggest [It List](#) fashion trends of the season. Unlike blazers, a pencil skirt isn't designed for every activity, but that doesn't mean it's not an interchangeable piece. A sleek midi made in versatile fall fabrics, like denim or leather, is just as ideal for drinks as it is for the office. Plus, styling this clothing item over tall boots will keep you extra-warm while looking chic. Add a statement belt to the look for an even cooler finish. Wear a midi skirt with a chunky sweater and ballet flats for a dressed-down approach. Basically, having a great pencil skirt is just as vital as having your favorite pair of jeans.

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Veronica Beard

3. The Polo Shirt

Having an assortment of classic T-shirts in your closet is a no-brainer, but you'll also want to have a few elevated options to rotate through as well. You can't go wrong with a collared shirt, as it has just the right amount of polish your everyday wardrobe needs. The best part is that collars can be found on just about any shirt style, even sweaters for the colder winter months. Choose between a few different styles of polo shirts to add a bit of refinement to your uniform style. They can be worn with tailored pants, your favorite types of jeans and even maxi skirts.



rag & bone, Moussy Vintage

4. The Button–Down Shirt & Jeans

As mentioned earlier, the most fundamental part of a capsule wardrobe is a great pair of jeans. It seems obvious that the universally beloved fabric is a key element of uniform dressing, but it’s because it goes with practically everything. You can have a few styles that work for your personal preferences, but we recommend stocking up on classic blue jeans with a high waist and straight legs. This silhouette will carry you from season to season, and by investing in a quality pair, you’ll be able to wear them forever.

Another piece that people may not think to have in their wardrobe is a great button-down shirt. Even though it doesn’t seem like a daily uniform item, it effortlessly adds a bit more elegance to your looks with very minimal effort. Just like a blazer, a button-down shirt can be styled over any style of pants for a lightweight coverage option. Stick to neutral colors again, but also grab a striped blue—because you can’t go wrong with a classic style.



Shop More Shirts & Jeans

Nili Lotan

Joan Straight-Leg Jeans

\$450

Uniform is an Art Form

If you’re anything like us, your closet may or may not be overflowing with an absurd amount of clothes, season after season. The best way to remedy this is by sorting through the pieces that work best for your lifestyle and can be styled in multiple ways for different occasions. Uniform fashion is a simple yet effective method is the key to mastering the art of uniform dressing. Rotating a select few pieces of clothing is the easiest way to create put-together outfits with very little effort.

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