



Article published on January 25th 2012 | [Clothing](#)

The festive season is officially over and that means it's time to pack away the last remnants from the Christmas party and start looking towards the coming twelve months. January can be a month that necessitates the tightening of our belts after the excesses of the previous season, so any ladies dresses, tops, jeans or other fashion purchases we splash out on in the next few months need to be practical, versatile and affordable. Here's our guide to a few staple wardrobe pieces that you can utilise for almost any occasion, without breaking the bank.

The Little Black Dress

The little black dress represents classic style that never goes out of fashion. Black ladies dresses are also enviably slimming, with darker shades creating the illusion of clean lines and hiding any unsightly lumps and bumps. Invest in a gorgeous little black piece that flatters your body type, and accessorise with simple jewellery and kitten heels for a special occasion. You could also dress it down with layered clothing such as leggings and a cardigan, throw on some ballet pumps or court shoes and you've got a smart, practical piece of smart-casual day wear.

The casual women's top

As glamorous as it looks in the movies, very few women have the time or the inclination to run around in a dress 24/7. To create a more casual outfit, a steady supply of laid-back ladies tops is essential. A white t-shirt or blouse is the perfect anchor piece for a smart, stylish everyday outfit. In winter months, wear it underneath a luxurious cardigan with jeans or a skirt for a warm but lightweight layered ensemble.

That perfect pair of jeans

Every woman should have a pair of jeans to hand that makes you feel fantastic from the moment you step into them. Your ideal jeans shouldn't feel uncomfortable or leave unflattering marks on your skin – which is why if you still haven't quite shifted those extra few festive lbs, a pair of stretch jeans could be just the ticket. Designed to effortlessly fit around the contours of your body, stretch jeans give you room to breathe and won't leave you with the dreaded "muffin top" look. If you're particularly conscious of your middle, consider slightly flared bootcut jeans with a high waistband to draw attention away from your stomach.

The statement handbag

The statement handbag is an essential item, not just for its fashionable qualities but also for its practical functions. An oversized handbag will fit all of your daily essentials while keeping you effortlessly on-trend. A large leather or faux-leather shoulder-handbag should prove an equally effective match for a winter coat or a smart summer jacket. Avoid garish designs and stick to classy, understated colours for best effects.

Daxon are a leading online fashion and home shopping catalogue, specialising in classical and elegantly styled fashions. From petite to plus size clothing, Daxon's extensive range of fashion is perfect whatever shape or size you are looking for, from casual tops to elegant outfits. Daxon are part of Redcats, the world's third largest home shopping organisation.

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Article Keywords:

Ladies dresses, Plus size clothing, clothing

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