

Hello everyone!

## Today's topic: American Dress Codes

A dress code is a set of rules, sometimes written, regarding what clothing certain groups of people should wear. They can vary based on **purpose, circumstances, and occasions**. Different societies and cultures are likely to have different dress codes. Today, we will look at U.S. dress codes.



### Activities:

- Review American Dress Codes
- What are the rules? What is expected of you?
- Review new **vocabulary**

# Why is it important to understand dress codes?

- Dressing **inappropriately** for a specific occasion is **socially frowned upon**.
  - You may offend your hosts
  - You may send the wrong message
- Dress codes vary by region, industry and company
  - Do you **“fit in”**?



## Why is it important to understand dress codes?

- When meeting for the first time, a person may form an opinion of you based on what you wear.



# Why is it important to understand dress codes?

What you wear can reveal:

income level

education level

level of authority

level of sophistication

credibility and competence

professionalism

intelligence

occupation

cultural identity

religious affiliations

political affiliations

social class

# U.S. dress codes generally fall into two categories: Informal and Formal

## Informal:

- Casual
- Business casual

## Formal:

- Business formal
- Semi Formal/Cocktail Attire
- Formal



## Informal: Casual Dress Code

- Clothing that is informal and comfortable, yet clean and professional. You look "put together."
- It's best to go with nicer casual wear and avoid the baggier items you wear around the house.
- Don't show "too much skin."



# Informal: Casual Dress Code Men

- Slacks (like khakis)
- Nice jeans (dark wash, no rips)
- Polo shirt
- Sweater
- Good quality tee shirt (no writing on it)
- Shoes: canvas or leather
- Modest Jewelry: (a watch)



# Informal: Casual Dress Code Women

- Slacks
- Nice jeans (dark wash, no rips)
- Simple dresses or skirts
- Boots, tennis shoes, heels, flats, sandals
- Structured bag
- Minimal jewelry





# Informal: Casual Dress Code

*Casual Dress is the norm for most Americans in most situations.*

## Unacceptable:

- Any outfits you would wear to a picnic, beach, camping trip, yoga class, gym, nightclub etc.
- “At home clothes”- lounge wear, baggies, athleisure



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- Casual dress does not mean “sloppy.”
- Clothing should be clean

# Informal: Business Casual Dress Code Men

- sport coat or casual blazer
- cardigan
- collared shirt,
- casual button-down shirt,
- casual slacks (like khakis)
- belt
- dress shoes
- loafers, or nice boots
- neckties unnecessary
- dark or neutral colors



# Informal: Business Casual Dress Code Women

- collared or non-collared blouse,
- dress or skirt (at or below the knee),
- casual blazer or **cardigan**
- slacks
- high heels
- **dress boots**
- **flats**
- modest jewelry and accessories
- avoid bright colors



how to do  
*business casual*

# Informal: Business Casual Dress Code

*Business casual attire has become the **norm** in many work environments.*

- Employees are free to wear comfortable – but work-appropriate clothing.
- Clothing should be modest – minimal skin exposed

## **Unacceptable:**

- Your favorite old T-shirt, shorts, **ratty** sneakers
- Torn or ripped clothes
- Clothes that have stains and dirt
- Flip flops!



# Formal: Business Formal Dress Code

## For Both Men and Women:

The standard dress code in a business formal environment:

- A full matching business suit, including a jacket and dress pants or a dress skirt. A tie for men.
- Dark and neutral colors.



*(It's the easiest one!)*

# Formal: Semi-Formal (Cocktail) Dress Code

- Required at semi-formal occasions such as holiday parties, weddings, galas, and at some fine dining events.
- It is an outfit that is dressier than business casual but not as dressy as a formal evening gown or tuxedo.
- We usually add a few festive elements like color and sparkle.



*Here's where you can breakout the bling!*

## Formal: Semi-Formal (Cocktail) Dress Code Women

- Dress, knee length (not long)
- Dressy pant suit
- Colors: black to bold and bright, be creative!
- High heel shoes (fancy)
- Formal handbag such as a **clutch**
- Jewelry, high end necklaces, bracelets and earrings



*Semi-formal is dressier than business casual.  
Do not wear what you would for a business casual event.*

# Formal: Semi-Formal(Cocktail) Dress Code Men

- Suit (jacket and pants)
- Suit jacket or blazer
- Dress shirt
- Dress Pants
- Dress shoes (well shinned)
- Necktie (optional but encouraged)
- Accessories: cuff links, pocket scarf, dress watch
- Colors: dark and light ok



*Semi-formal is dressier than business casual.  
Do not wear what you would for a business casual event.*



# Formal: Formal Dress Codes

- Formal attire typically means “black tie optional,” where men can wear tuxedos or suits and women can wear long gowns.
- Formal attire is **classier** than semi-formal or cocktail attire.



# What would you wear?

1. Interviewing for a management position at Apple
2. Going to a fancy (expensive!) restaurant
3. Going to a parent teacher meeting at my child's school
4. Meeting a friend for coffee

5. Attending a graduation ceremony
6. Going to the grocery store
7. Going to a funeral service
8. Going to a semi-formal wedding

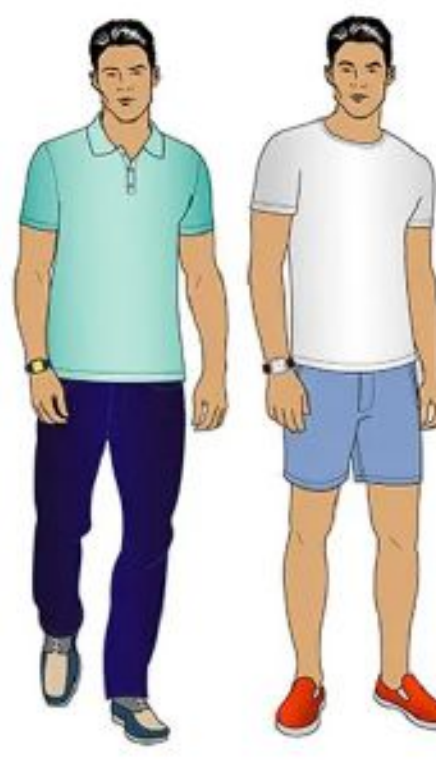


A



B

C



D

E



F

*Can you guess their occupation?*





RAVENWOOD GOLF CLUB  
929 LYNAUGH ROAD  
VICTOR, NY 14564

*Cocktail Attire: Wear cocktail dresses, LBDs, dressy jumpsuits, and dark jackets and slacks.*

Do you know what to wear?



# Q & A

For all our friends and family who have questions, please check out our Q & A first!

**When is the RSVP deadline?**

Please RSVP by June 1st, 2023 so we can have an accurate headcount. :)

**What should I wear?**

Black tie preferred, high end cocktail attire required. (Think suits, tuxedo, nice slacks with blazer with tie or bowtie. Floor length dresses welcome, silk/textured/patterned/sparkle- pull out all the stops and glam it up with us!)

*Do you know what to wear?*

July 9, 2023

Our registry is listed below to view! We are also saving for our honeymoon & many home renovations- Venmo listed below if you wish to gift to those adventures!

Thank you, The future Mr & Mrs



## Honeymoon & Home Renovation Fund!

We are working hard to give my childhood home a facelift, with plans to completely...

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