

how to create a

CAPSULE WARDROBE

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

V E T T A

CONTENTS

Welcome! If you have a closet full of clothes and nothing to wear, then building a capsule wardrobe will help you create a wardrobe that you love! It's not necessarily about how many items are in your closet, but rather being thoughtful about what is in your wardrobe and how it works together.

And even though we here at VETTA design and sell mini capsule wardrobes to help get you started, it's also not necessarily about buying new stuff. You can take the clothing that already exists in your closet and streamline it to create a wardrobe that works for you!

So what is a capsule wardrobe? We define a capsule wardrobe as an edited wardrobe made up of high-quality clothing in coordinating colors that can be worn interchangeably.

So let's dive in! Here's what we'll be covering:

- 1 DEFINING YOUR STYLE
- 2 CREATING A COLOR PALETTE
- 3 BUILDING A FIT GUIDE
- 4 ALIGNING YOUR CLOSET TO YOUR LIFESTYLE
- 5 CREATING OUTFIT RECIPES
- 6 DESIGNING YOUR CAPSULE WARDROBE
- 7 CLEANING OUT YOUR CLOSET
- 8 CREATING A WISH LIST

Set aside an hour or so on your calendar, grab a cup of coffee or tea, and create some space to be creative! We also have more in-depth articles about each of these steps at bit.ly/capsulewardrobeguide, as well as additional articles about cleaning out your closet at bit.ly/VETTAblog, so check those out!

DEFINE YOUR STYLE

Edgy	Sporty	Menswear-inspired	Simple	Clean	Girl Next Door	Athletic	Cutting Edge
Romantic	Whimsical	Hippie	Futuristic	Glam	Sexy	Nautical	Fun
Classic	Eclectic	Free-spirited	Bright	Minimal	Chic	Western	Streetwear
Bohemian	Grunge	Rockstar	Feminine	Androgynous	Funky	Natural	Glitzy
Vintage-inspired	Tomboy	Corporate	Trendy	Punk	Refined	Ladylike	Artist
Relaxed	Girly	Dressy	Understated	Modern	Quirky	Sophisticated	Layered
Casual	Colorful	Outdoorsy	Elegant	Comfortable	Architectural	Avant-garde	Polished
Preppy	Bold	Active	Timeless	French	Sleek	California	Tailored

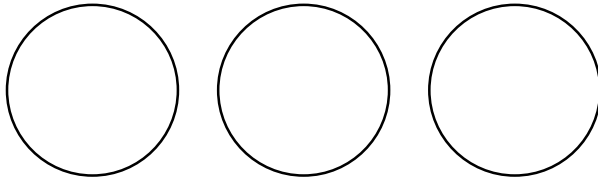
MY STYLE IN WORDS...

Create a Pinterest board for your style. Find tips for this at bit.ly/capsulestyle. Try to identify some patterns, and see if you gravitate towards certain clothes and avoid others. Once you identify some recurring themes, ask yourself “what story are these pieces telling me?” Circle words that resonate with you, and then name your style by writing it out in your own words.

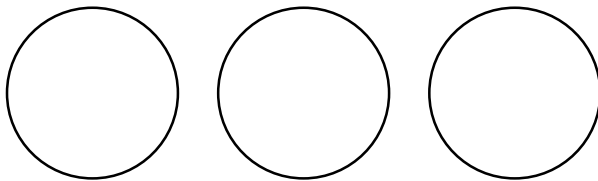
COLOR PALETTE

SPRING/SUMMER

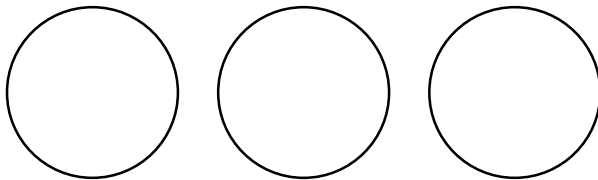
BASE COLORS



ACCENT COLORS

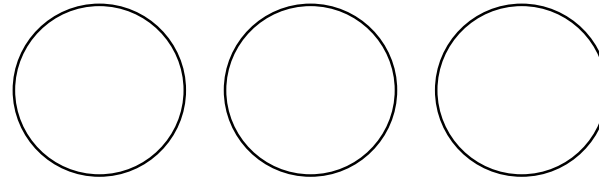


PATTERNS + TEXTURES

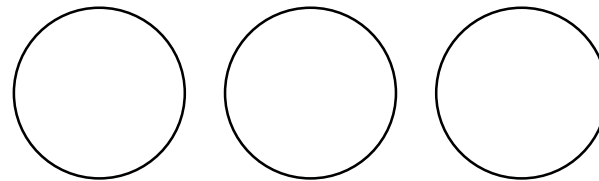


FALL/WINTER

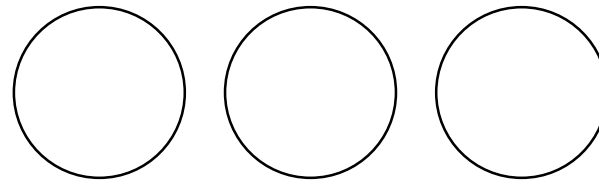
BASE COLORS



ACCENT COLORS



PATTERNS + TEXTURES



Look in your closet and think about what colors you wear the most. Also, reference Pinterest for inspiration.

Think about including colors that work well together, like cool tones (such as blue and grey), warm tones (such as camel, ivory, and burgundy), basic colors (such as black, white, and grey, or jewel tones (such as emerald and ruby).

FIT GUIDE

YES NO N/A NECKLINES

- ☐☐☐ Crew neck
- ☐☐☐ Boat neck
- ☐☐☐ V neck
- ☐☐☐ Deep v neck
- ☐☐☐ Scoop neck
- ☐☐☐ Turtleneck
- ☐☐☐ Cowl neck
- ☐☐☐ Off the shoulder
- ☐☐☐ One shoulder
- ☐☐☐ Halter
- ☐☐☐ Sweetheart neckline
- ☐☐☐ Square neckline
- ☐☐☐ Strapless
- ☐☐☐ Spaghetti straps

WAIST

- ☐☐☐ Defined waist
- ☐☐☐ Undefined waist, loose

YES NO N/A DRESS/SKIRT LENGTH

- ☐☐☐ Mini skirt
- ☐☐☐ Mid thigh
- ☐☐☐ Just above knee
- ☐☐☐ Midi (mid calf)
- ☐☐☐ Maxi (ankle length)

DRESS/SKIRT TYPE

- ☐☐☐ A-line
- ☐☐☐ Body-con (fitted)
- ☐☐☐ Shift Dress (loose, structured)
- ☐☐☐ Boho (loose, flowy)

TOP LENGTH

- ☐☐☐ Cropped (above belly button)
- ☐☐☐ Cropped (at top of pants)
- ☐☐☐ Medium (at hip bones)
- ☐☐☐ Long (at crotch of pants)
- ☐☐☐ Tunic (mid thigh)

YES NO N/A SLEEVES

- ☐☐☐ Sleeveless
- ☐☐☐ Cap Sleeves
- ☐☐☐ Short sleeves
- ☐☐☐ Elbow length sleeves
- ☐☐☐ 3/4 sleeves
- ☐☐☐ Long sleeves
- ☐☐☐ Bell sleeves
- ☐☐☐ Gathered sleeves
- ☐☐☐ Dolman sleeves

SHORT/PANT LENGTH

- ☐☐☐ Short shorts
- ☐☐☐ Mid-thigh shorts
- ☐☐☐ Bermuda shorts
- ☐☐☐ Culottes
- ☐☐☐ Cropped (ankle length)
- ☐☐☐ Long pants (wear with flats)
- ☐☐☐ Extra-long pants (wear with heels)

YES NO N/A PANT TYPE

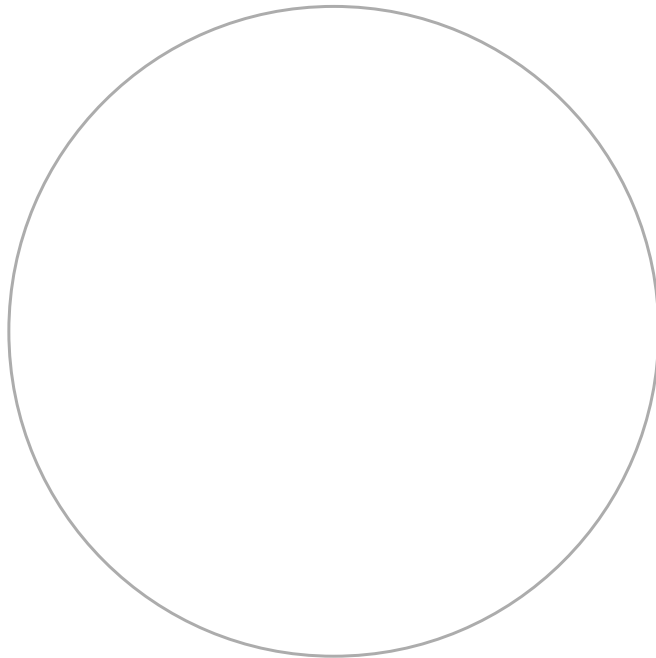
- ☐☐☐ Skinny
- ☐☐☐ Bootleg
- ☐☐☐ Flare
- ☐☐☐ Wide leg
- ☐☐☐ Culottes
- ☐☐☐ Boyfriend
- ☐☐☐ Tailored, slim
- ☐☐☐ Tailored, bootcut
- ☐☐☐ Leggings
- ☐☐☐ Ponte pant
- ☐☐☐ Trousers/ chinos
- ☐☐☐ High waisted

I NEED TO BUY MORE...

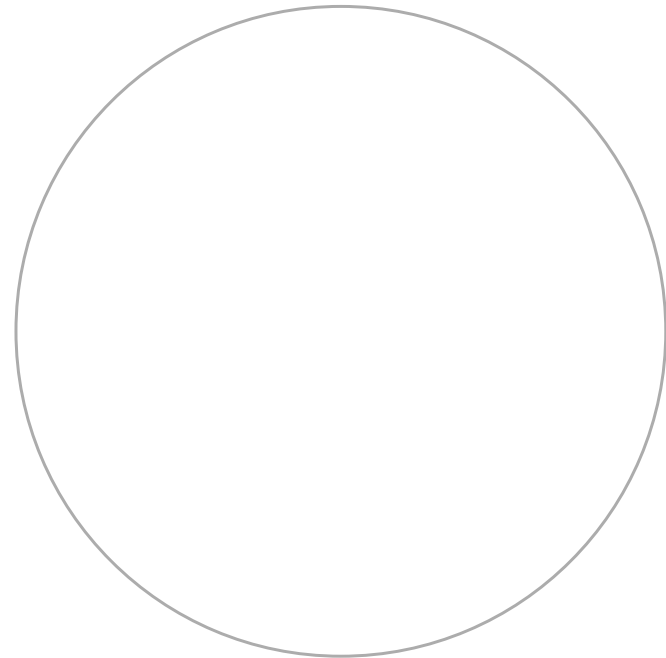
I NEED TO STOP BUYING SO MANY...

CLOSET + LIFESTYLE

MY LIFESTYLE



MY WARDROBE



I NEED TO BUY MORE...

I NEED TO HOLD OFF ON BUYING...

Ask yourself “what kind of clothes do I spend time in?” (your lifestyle) vs “what makes up my actual closet?” (your wardrobe). Use these categories to make a pie chart: active, casual, professional, business-casual, semi-dressy, dressy, & formal.

OUTFIT RECIPES

Think about the outfits you wear that you feel great in. Also, look at your Pinterest board inspiration.

Create a list of 10-15 “outfit recipes,” such as “culottes + striped tee + white sneakers.” Then, use the items from those first 15 outfits to make more outfits. List each item from this page on the next page, and add any essentials you forgot.

MY CAPSULE WARDROBE

TOPS

HAVE IT
NEED IT

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

SWEATERS

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

BOTTOMS

HAVE IT
NEED IT

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

DRESSES

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

OUTERWEAR

HAVE IT
NEED IT

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

SHOES/ACCESSORIES

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

CLOSET CLEAN OUT

As you are cleaning out your closet, keep in mind your capsule wardrobe design. You're not just editing out individual items in your closet, but designing your wardrobe as a whole. You want to end up with a closet that you can mix and match, and create tons of outfits, so that it's easier to get dressed every day and feel your best! If you're not ready to pare down to a really small wardrobe, you can do a general clean out and then create a mini capsule wardrobe within your wardrobe. Store this mini capsule together in a separate section of your closet, and you can still experience the benefits of a capsule wardrobe.

STEP 1: PREP

Set aside a few hours, so that you're not rushed. Get a few trash bags or boxes. Bring your Ipad or laptop into the room and pull up your Pinterest board. Set out your list of outfit recipes. Then put on some good music and roll up your sleeves!

STEP 2: SEPARATE INTO GROUPS

The first step is to go through each item one by one and assign them to one of three groups: yes, no, or maybe. You can leave all the yes's in your closet, put the maybe's on your bed (still on the hanger) and the no's in a bag/box (off the hanger). This way it's less intimidating than taking every single thing out of your closet. That being said, a LOT of things will be coming out of your closet, so just be ready for that.

>>THE YESES: Items you really love, with no hesitation.

>>THE NOS: Items you haven't worn in over a year / aren't flattering / are falling apart / you don't like.

>>THE MAYBES: If it's not a yes or a no, then it's a maybe! This will probably be your biggest group. We'll sort this in the next step.

STEP 3: SORTING 'THE MAYBES'

Keep in mind the principles from the prior exercises as you go through the maybes: Fit, Lifestyle, Color Palette, and Outfits.

Go through your 'maybe' pile one by one, trying them on with 'yes' items to make outfits, using your Pinterest board and outfit recipes. This will either give you new inspiration for the item, or make you realize that you just don't like it, no matter how you wear it. Consider whether it mixes and matches well. Add it to the 'yes' or 'no' pile, depending on what you think.

If an item isn't quite a 'yes,' but you're not ready to give it away, then store it temporarily somewhere out of sight. Avoid putting something back in your closet that isn't working, because the goal here is for you to be able to reach into your closet and every single thing hanging there is capable of making an outfit that you feel good in. In a couple months, go through the box you stored, and see if you've missed wearing anything. At that point you may be ready to give more of these items away, or you may be ready to wear them again.

You now should have a closet full of outfit-ready clothes, and getting dressed in the morning will feel a lot easier! Keep the outfit recipes page of your capsule wardrobe worksheet in your closet, so that you can reference it whenever you get stuck getting dressed. Note whether there are any 'holes' in your wardrobe, and add those items to your wish list on the next page.

WARDROBE WISH LIST

SPRING / SUMMER *wish list*

1 ☐

2 ☐

3 ☐

4 ☐

5 ☐

6 ☐

7 ☐

8 ☐

9 ☐

10 ☐

FALL / WINTER *wish list*

1 ☐

2 ☐

3 ☐

4 ☐

5 ☐

6 ☐

7 ☐

8 ☐

9 ☐

10 ☐

Take a picture of this page, or write it in the notes app of your phone, so you always have it with you. Reference this list any time you have the impulse to buy something and remind yourself of what you actually want (ie not a random sale item, but the perfect denim jacket). Happy capsule building!