

Goodwill Hunting Part 1

Did you ever wonder what it was like to do the photo shoots for our “Amazing Looks” section? I thought it would be interesting to take you on a “behind the scenes” look at how I pick the clothing and accessories for the models. Just like you, I shop at the Goodwill Retail Store & Donation Center nearest me, as well as others around the city. When you are dressing six models, two male, and four female, with four looks or more a piece, it can become a daunting process, unless you know the rules of making a good ensemble.

During the next few weeks we’ll take a look at the items I have “pulled” from the stores, and why I did. Photo stylists “pull” clothing, meaning “borrow” from stores. The same goes for the items you’ll see here. Once we have photographed the models wearing the outfits, everything goes back to the Goodwill store. So in essence, you will get a little preview here!

I always start with accessories, just because they can make such a huge difference in how an ensemble comes across. In many cases they can literally “make or break” an outfit. The most basic items in your wardrobe will take on a new life with a really great pair of shoes. I found so many pairs that were spectacular, that I thought I’d show you those first along with the prices! Just pennies on the dollar of what they would normally cost.

1. Black patent leather “go go” boots. These are a real classic and can “funk up” most any dress or jeans. They were \$3.99.



2. Esprit brand sling back in red with rivet detail. This shoe is both flattering and comfortable. Everyone knows that a red accessory can make an outfit "pop!" These NEW shoes were \$12.99.



3. Pierre Dumas silver pumps with interesting heel detail. These are your basic square-toed pumps, with a great-embellished heel. Perfect for a business or a formal event. They might also look awesome with jeans. They were \$4.99.



4. Fioni sling back shoe in black with shoelace detail. Again, this is a shoe that is easy to wear with most things. The pointy toe elongates the leg, and at \$6.99 a total bargain!



5. Newport News suede leather slide. The texture of the leather and the pointy toe make this more of a "casual fall" shoe, which can be worn with tights and skirts or dresses, or slacks. This pair was just \$6.99.



6. For elegance and fun these Michael Antonio slides with dangling rhinestone accents are really cool! They would add spice to any little black dress, and would give the wearer long flattering leg line. They were \$6.99.



7. Charlotte Russe ankle strap and buckle detail high heel shoe. Done in micro suede these would be work appropriate, as well as great with jeans or more casual outfits. They were \$6.99.



8. From Pierre Dumas we have these abstract acrylic slides, with a round "donut" heel! These are definitely evening shoes, and could be worn primarily in the summer, because they are so delicate looking. What a work of art and conversation starter these bad boys would be! They were an astounding \$6.99.



9. The top stitching on these stacked heel shoes from American Eagle would work best with either an office ensemble, or with a more casual look. The wood-like heels are an indicator that they won't work with a more formal type of dress. They were \$4.99.



10. Last but not least, we have these NEW Vera Wang flats in a patent leather with embellished metal detail. These could take you many places, and would work well in a variety of settings and outfits. A classic for sure and well worth the \$29.99 price tag!



You now know some of the shoes we will use in our next "Amazing Looks" photo shoot! Keep your eye out for these items as they return to a Goodwill Retail Store & Donation Center nearest you. Just like me, you never know what you're going to find, but you do know it will be amazing. Tune in next week for more of my fabulous finds for the photos!