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Women's Fashion Footwear: 9 Shoes You Must Have

By Stephanie Pedersen

If you're like most women, you have dozens upon dozens of sandals, sneakers, loafers, flip-flops, boots, and other footwear. But how many of them do you love? Really love? How many fit well, complement your fashion sense, and are versatile enough to serve multiple purposes? Moreover, how many of these shoes do you really need? You may be surprised to learn that the following nine must-haves are the only styles required to create a shoe wardrobe so all-encompassing, so perfect, that no matter what the occasion is, you'll have just the right shoe.

- 1. Two or three pairs of expensive-looking shoes for a work.** Study what your boss is wearing then get yourself two great-looking pairs of similar shoes. Not only will you always look appropriate and stylish, you'll always have a pair clean and ready should one need to go to the cobbler. Need style suggestions? Go with pumps. Not only are pumps flattering and easy to wear, they are the quintessential woman's work shoes, especially for those working in offices, banks, or upscale shops. Opt for a dark or medium neutral. Think black, chocolate, cordovan (an old-fashioned word for cherry-kissed brown), or even burgundy, navy, or charcoal.
- 2. One warm-weather work shoe.** Your best bet is a two-part pump—or one with peep toes—in a light shade such as tan, beige or dove gray.
- 3. One pair of slingbacks in a neutral shade.** They look chic with straight skirts and classic-cut trousers. They can be worn with bare legs or opaque winter stockings. Plus, they work well with formal and near-formal wear, they add sophistication to jeans, and instantly dress up a denim skirt and cardigan like nothing else can.
- 4. One pair of strappy dress sandals to wear with formal or semi-formal attire.** They can sex-up a pair of jeans, too. Best colors: a mid-tone or pale neutral, including metallics such as silver or gold.
- 5. One pair of neutral-colored casual shoes for weekends.** A woman can never go wrong with classics such as oxfords, moccasins, loafers, or clogs.
- 6. One pair of attractive athletic shoes.** They're good-enough-looking for your Juicy Couture

tracksuit, yet hard-working enough to perform at the gym.

7. One pair of fashion boots in a medium or dark neutral. Something classic enough for work-wear yet sexy enough to add an edge to jeans and an everyday tee. Top-of-the-calf boots with a flat heel are one of the cold weather season's hottest looks, but are surprisingly in-demand even as the weather grows warmer.

8. Two or more pair of casual, warm weather shoes in a pale neutral or fashion color. Think sandals, ballet slippers, or flip-flops done up in a dressy material like leather. Consider yourself a die-hard fashionista? Find a pair of espadrilles with a low to medium heel. Espadrilles are one of 2006's most coveted warm-weather trends.

9. One pair of galoshes or other weather-protective footwear. If you spend a good amount of time outdoors, go with two pairs. Be sure one is a classic style, such as Hunter Wellingtons in navy, green, red, pink or pale blue.

So ladies, clean out your closets, and stop spending money on shoes you don't absolutely love or that does not fit well, complement your style and is not versatile to serve multiple purposes. If you follow the above tips you will create a woman's fashion footwear wardrobe, that no matter what the occasion is, you will have the perfect shoe.

Stephanie Pedersen is the author of the recently published *Shoes: What Every Woman Should Know*, available at Amazon.com, BN.com and bookstores nationwide. Visit

and learn more about wearing, buying and loving

shoes before you even purchase an author-signed gift copy of *Shoes: What Every Woman Should Know*.

Is There Room In Your Closet For Women's Casual Shoes?

By Bowe Packer

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Many women ask the question – What's wrong with sneakers? Aren't they considered women's casual shoes?

There really is nothing wrong with tennis shoes, after all they are categorized as the traditional casual shoes.

Although sneakers are casual shoes, women are moving towards reaching for a pair of casual shoes for women and particularly women's designer casual shoes. The fancier more stylish look is just a tad

dressier, even when your favorite wear is jeans and a t-shirt.

Putting Your Best Casual Women's Shoe Forward

Women across the country have to admit, there's an element of excitement to sliding on a pair of comfortable, yet stylish pair of casual shoes for women. This is not limited to, but includes such shoes as clogs, nine-west, steve maddens, mules or mary-janes that makes women feel a little more prepared and ready for what the day might place in there path. These women's designer casual shoes are fast becoming the shoe of choice due to there comfort and style. These casual shoes are delivering a feeling that life hasn't tore you up and spit you out, and even on those more relaxed days, you've still got a bit of fashion on your feet.

So, for those of you live in jeans, there are so many great womens casual shoe options, the possibilities are endless, and the choices can be fun and exciting to look at.

The Proper Casual Shoe Heel

As a general rule of thumb, when you're choosing to dress casually, leave the high heel shoes or flashy footwear at home and in the closet. Make your selection from your casual shoe selection and leave the high and pointy heels for those going out and dancing nights. Casual shoes for women are just that, casual.

Here are a few tips to help you decide which heel is appropriate for your casual women's shoe day:

With a longer pant leg choose a pair of womens shoes that has a small heel. Letting the hem of your pants drag on the floor is even a bit much for "casual" and has a tendency to look a bit sloppy.

For the average length and slightly shorter jeans choose a pair of casual shoes that have a small or no heel. This allows the hem to be slightly above the floor eliminating the sloppy look.

The whole point to "going casual" is to be comfortable and stress-free, but look good while you are at it. So, when making that perfect decision on your women's designer casual shoes remember the tips above. Casual womens shoes can have style, fashion and feel comfortable on your feet.

Bowe Packer is the Webmaster and content provider for <http://www.clothes-4u.com>. His website: <http://www.clothes-4u.com> is dedicated to providing free fashion advice and tips for women. Offering excellent tips and strategies for women to look good in the areas of Casual, Petite Size, Plus Size clothing, as well as dress, athletic and casual shoes. You can reach him at: bowe@clothes-4u.com.



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