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CLOTHING TAGS & TIPS

Think First —Then Buy

Before you make a hasty decision about sale clothing, ask yourself:

—Do I really need it? Does it fit into my wardrobe plan?

—Will I have to buy accessories to complete the outfit? Can I wear it with clothes I already have?

—Does the garment fit well, or can I alter it?

—What kind of care will be needed?

—How will I pay for it? If this purchase is unplanned, will it upset my clothing budget? Remember, buying on "time" may add extra interest charges.

Read and evaluate advertisements carefully. Learn to read between the lines and ask questions.

Beware of stores that have too many sales or that are frequently "Going out of business." Think carefully before you go to a store that uses "bait" ads to get you in for a "bargain" and then tries to steer you toward other merchandise.

Know what you want and need and don't take a substitute for what you intend to buy. Avoid impulse buying—an impulse is likely to be something you don't want or need.

Shop around to compare prices and get the most quality for the least cost. Get to know your local sales seasons and take advantage of the savings.

Don't fall for the line, "It's exactly the same thing" as another, higher-priced item. Examine workmanship closely.

Check tags and labels for fiber

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content, shrinkage control and care instructions. Consider the care needed. Does it have to be ironed? hand washed? dry cleaned? Dry cleaning adds extra expense.

Consider how extensive and expensive alterations will be. Can you make the changes yourself, or will you pay someone else to do it? Remember that permanent press garments can't be enlarged because creases can't be removed.

Do try on clothes before buying. Clothing sizing is not always standard and you can't be sure the same size in different brands will fit you.

Remember that a bargain is a bargain only if you need and really want it! Shop carefully and make the sales purchase wisely.

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