



The "Recessionista"

How to Stay Fashionable in a Recession

By Jennifer Patrick, The Couture Exchange

I know times are tough for us couture addicts. Money is tight and all the new fall bags are hitting the stores - at a price tag well over \$1000-\$2000 in most cases. And all the fabulous shoes are starting at \$500 and going up from there! The dollar is weak and prices are rising, and in this economy we are now forced to shop cautiously. What is a stylish girl to do?

Here are some suggestions...

Now is the time to part with all the handbags, shoes, and accessories in your closet that you no longer "LOVE". What better way to make some well needed cash to shop with?

We must now employ the "LOVE" rule to everything. If you don't "LOVE" it, don't buy it and if you no longer "LOVE" it, now is the time to part with it.

Wear your classic clothes this year and punch them up with new accessories to update your look!!

Invest only in a few pieces that are timeless and that you love - no pleather leggings - PLEASE! A plain black dress with a fabulous handbag, a pricey belt and fabulous boots-what could be better?

Shop creatively and be a thrifty fashionista - never pay FULL PRICE!!

Pick some of your favorite pieces and take them to your tailor to update their look. Change buttons, hemlines, even silhouettes! For a small price you can turn an old favorite into a new one!

Break out the vintage pieces you love or buy some at a resale boutique! What better time to flex your individuality?

Buy trendy funky fill-in pieces at H&M, TopShop, Bebe, Urban Outfitters, etc. Mix your fabulous couture with fun inexpensive tops, scarves, sweaters, jewelry, etc... to look fresh!