

International Women's Day Clothing Drives

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Our clothing donors are a vital part of the Dress for Success Styling team. Thank you for supporting us as we support our Clients to get that life-changing job and support the circular fashion economy to reduce textile waste across Australia.

Due to the volume of clothing drives around International Women's Day, your local Dress for Success Affiliate may charge a tax-deductible fee to help cover administrative costs and meet our Empower Hour fundraising goal. You can pay this directly on your fundraising page or we can invoice this donation to streamline payment.

Due to limitations of space and volunteer resources, we are seeking only high-quality clothing that is considered either work appropriate or "luxury / designer" brands. We require items as close to new (we love tags on!), freshly laundered, and on-trend/stylish/modern that you would still wear yourself.

Please visit your local Dress for Success Affiliate for their current needs/guidelines:

[Brisbane](#) (Suited to Success), [NSW & ACT](#) (Sydney, Illawarra, Newcastle-Hunter), [South-East Melbourne](#) (Groomed to Go), [Tasmania](#), [Western Australia](#)

Thank you for supporting our work – we can't wait to see what you've collected!

Hosting your drive:

1. Set up a fundraising page at www.empowerhour.org.au, complete with any logos / images, and key clothing drive information. We recommend creating a shortened link and QR code for this page through <https://bitly.com>.
2. Check your local Dress for Success Affiliate website (links above) to find out about our current clothing needs, what items cannot be donated, and any other donation information.

3. Due to the management associated with clothing drives, a fee may be invoiced to your organisation to help us cover administrative costs and meet our fundraising goals. Alternatively, you can pay this directly through your fundraising page.
4. Time to design your marketing collateral! [Visit our Campaign Toolkit](#) for images, templates and key messages.
5. Use your fundraising page as your “one stop shop” to give participants key information about your drive, including what items we can and cannot accept. Use whatever platforms work best for you to tell your participants about the drive, whether it is a Facebook event, an intranet post, etc – simply direct them to this fundraising page for all details.
6. Once the drive is over, thank all participants and arrange your donation delivery, based on your local Affiliate’s donation day(s).

Donation drive checklist:

Please ensure the items being donated are new or as new only – think: *“Would I still wear this? Would I wear it for work or to go out and feel special? Would I give or lend to a friend? Is it current or classic fashion?”* If the answer is yes, we are your people!

To assist with our sustainable clothing donation model, please ensure that no discount brand clothing or jewellery is included in your donations. We are only able to accept clean items in good repair.

Before you donate items please double check everything is:

- ☐ Workwear appropriate and luxury / designer items.
- ☐ Clean and recently washed.
- ☐ In good condition.
- ☐ Not in need of repair.
- ☐ Shoes are new or as new, with intact soles.
- ☐ Items smell clean or odourless.
- ☐ On our current list of needs.

If you have a large quantity of items please ensure they are:

- ☐ Boxed up with coat hangers (no wire hangers please!).
- ☐ Sorted into style (e.g. shirts together, suits together, dresses together).
- ☐ To ensure WH&S compliance, please ensure boxes are not larger than 450mm x 350 mm x 350 mm.
- ☐ Please avoid plastic bags.

Please ensure that the following items are NOT included in your donation:

Most of the following sites are nation-wide.

- ☐ Menswear – Brisbane and South-East Melbourne accept menswear. Work appropriate menswear can be donated to Dress for Work in Bankstown NSW (<https://dressforwork.org.au>)
- ☐ Children's wear – baby gear, children's wear, toys, and nursery items can be donated to The Dandelion Network (<https://dandelionsupport.org.au/donate-goods>)
- ☐ Swimwear, underwear, etc – bras in good or new condition can be donated to Support The Girls (<https://supportthegirls.com.au/donations-guide>). Otherwise, textile recyclers Upparel (<https://upparel.com.au>) will take discarded items including swimwear.
- ☐ Cosmetics, perfume & sanitary items – Share The Dignity (<https://www.sharethedignity.org.au/itsinthebag>) distributes sanitary items to women across Australia.
- ☐ High boots, unsupportive shoes/sandals, thongs – Tread Lightly (<https://treadlightly.asga.com.au/what-we-take>) recycles old sneakers, school shoes, etc and has drop off locations across Australia. Totally Workwear (<https://www.totallyworkwear.com.au/tww-boot-recycling>) will take old work boots for recycling.
- ☐ Discount or "fast fashion" brands - textile recyclers Upparel (<https://upparel.com.au>) will take discarded items and, if wearable and resaleable, this will be distributed through charitable organisations in a way that they can process it efficiently.
- ☐ Items that are dirty, damaged, or in need of repairs - textile recyclers Upparel (<https://upparel.com.au>) will take discarded items to be recycled and turned into new textiles, or items that can be used in other industries, such as insulation and cleaning rags.

- ❑ Homewares, etc – Givit (<https://www.givit.org.au/donate-items>) can help you rehome anything inside and around a house – everything from cutlery to a washing machine to hardware tools can be rehomed through the platform. You can also donate school equipment, sporting goods, bigger items such as a shipping container, and much more!

Delivering your donations:

When it comes to donation boxes, we generally recommend that they are no larger than 450mm x 350mm x 350mm. Please avoid plastic bags.

Once your clothing drive is complete, the items would need to be delivered to your local Boutique, on their clothing donation day or by arrangement:

[Brisbane](#) (Suited to Success), [NSW & ACT](#) (Sydney, Illawarra, Newcastle-Hunter), [South-East Melbourne](#) (Groomed to Go), [Tasmania](#), [Western Australia](#)