

Clothing Drive Donation Guidelines

Our clothing donors are a vital part of Dress for Success NSW & ACT. Thank you for helping us support our Clients to get that life-changing job and on their way to a brighter, more independent future.

Please follow our sustainability guidelines, helping us reduce our environmental footprint and enhance the social impact of our services.



We are grateful to receive:

- Quality workwear; reputable modern brands
- In season items
- Occasion wear & luxury items
- Knitwear, wovens, coats (in Autumn and Winter)
- Designer and luxury brand names – on trend styles and classic pieces
- High-quality costume and/or designer jewellery
- Handbags and accessories in very good condition
- Shoes – only new or near new
- We accept all sizes and always need high quality 16+



We're currently in need of:

- Quality flat and low-heeled shoes
- Black handbags suitable for workwear
- New or excellent condition black or white t-shirts
- Good quality sportswear
- Casual clothing in excellent condition



We prefer not to receive*:

- Menswear, childrenswear, swimwear, homewares
- Underwear, bras, undergarments
- Cosmetics, perfume & sanitary items
- High boots, unsupportive shoes/sandals, thongs
- Discount or "fast fashion" brands
- Items that are dirty, damaged, or in need of repairs



When donating items, please do a check of the following:

- Test the strength of zippers, studs, labels, embellishments, and elastics.
- Items should withstand multiple machine washes on warm/cold cycles.
- We kindly ask that items be free of colour fading, pilling, uneven hems, seam slippage, fraying, or missing accessories.
- Please rewash if there are any marks, stains, or odours.
- We appreciate donations that are in good condition and not overly worn or outdated.

We gladly accept:

Corporate workwear

- Designer brand corporate workwear.
- Matching suits (jacket/skirt or jacket/pants).
- Skirts of appropriate length.
- Pants (three-quarter and full length) that pair well with jackets.
- Durable jackets for daily wear.
- Shirts (long and short sleeve).
- Collarless tops for layering under jackets.
- Trans-seasonal items.



Footwear & handbags

- Ankle boots, court shoes, dress heels, and new trainers.
- Flat, work-appropriate shoes.
- Wallets and work-appropriate bags.
- Footwear and bags in excellent condition with even soles, no scuffs, and fully functioning parts.
- Heels under 7.5cm and comfortable to wear.
- Please ensure items are free of odours and marks.



Knitwear, wovens, casualwear

Knitwear, woven items, and casualwear are perfect for our Style Delivered program and women transitioning from Correctional Facilities.

Please ensure the following criteria are met:

- Verify strength and stretch for shape retention
- Reinforced high-wear areas, such as elbows and knees, in denim, cotton, silk, and wool.

Accessories & jewellery

- Earrings (in pairs with matching backs please!), including studs, hoops, and costume jewellery.
- Work-appropriate, on-trend pieces like fine bracelets and necklaces.
- Scarves.

Please note that we cannot accept plated jewellery containing nickel or copper to protect our clients from potential skin discoloration.



Occasion wear & luxury items

- If not suitable for work, these can be offered to clients for their special occasions.
- Unused items may be sold at our pop-up fashion sales. These are important fundraisers with all proceeds directly supporting our operations and career support programs.

We follow a Sustainable Donation model to recycle, reuse, and resell items, ensuring they avoid landfill. Donations that can't be used by our clients may find new life in our fashion pop-up sales or be shared with deserving partner charities.

Dress for Success NSW & ACT Sustainable Donation Model



Clothing Drive Donation Checklist

Before donating, please make sure all items are:

- Workwear appropriate or luxury/designer items
- Clean and recently washed
- In good condition and not in need of repair
- Shoes are new or like-new, with intact soles
- Free of odors



For large donations, please consider:

- Sort items by style (e.g., shirts, suits, dresses)
- Please pack your clothing donations in boxes no larger than 450mm x 350mm x 350mm to help us comply with WH&S requirements

Please refer to the list below for alternative donation options:

- Menswear: [Dress for Work](#)
- Children's Wear: [The Dandelion Network](#)
- Swimwear and Underwear: [Support The Girls.](#)
- Discarded items, including swimwear: [Upparel](#)
- Cosmetics, Perfume & Sanitary Items: [Share The Dignity](#)
- Footwear: [Tread Lightly](#) or [Totally Workwear.](#)
- Discount or "Fast Fashion" Brands: [Upparel](#)
- Dirty, Damaged, or In Need of Repairs: [Upparel](#)
- Homewares: [Givit](#)

We are sincerely grateful for your support.