

Your *Thrift* Guide

Tips to help you
make secondhand
your first choice



Are you ready to level up your wardrobe?

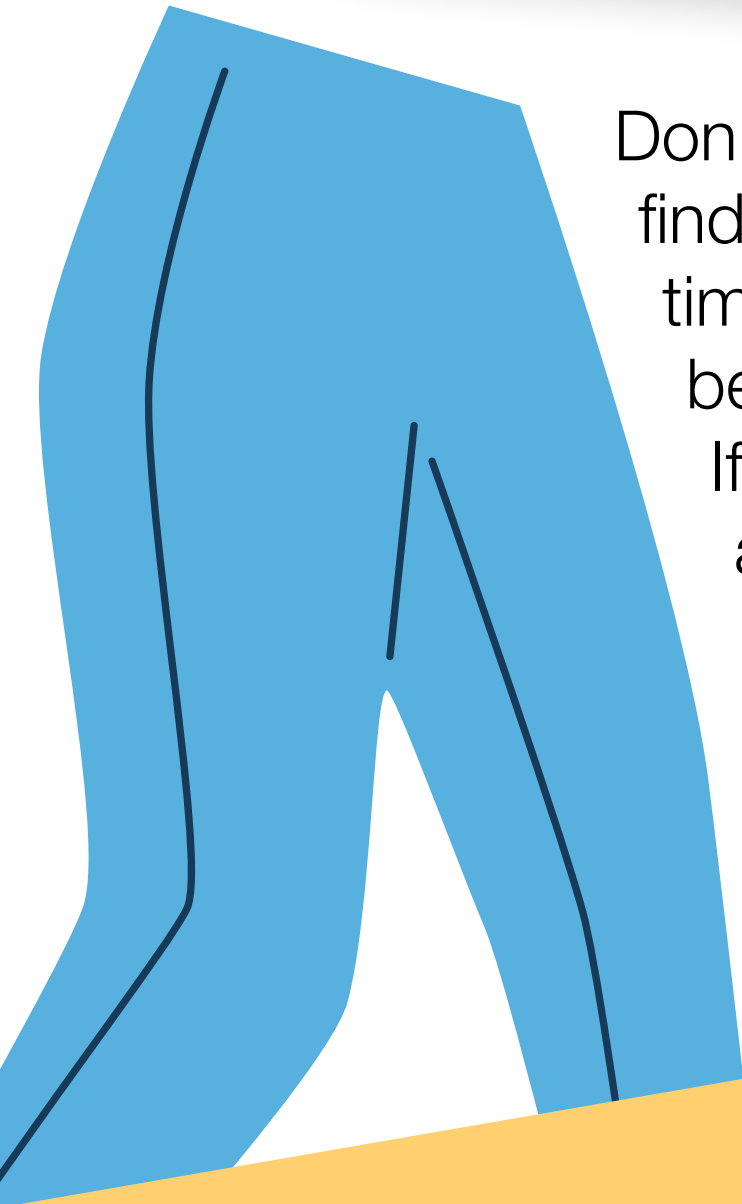
Use some of our favorite tips to strengthen your thrifting muscles. Like anything else, the more you practice, the better you'll get.

Soon you'll be scoring thrifted treasures and helping our planet by keeping clothing out of the landfill.





Mentally prepare



Don't stress about finding something every time. I find great things because I thrift often. If I am looking for an item, the key is consistency.

ANNA Y.



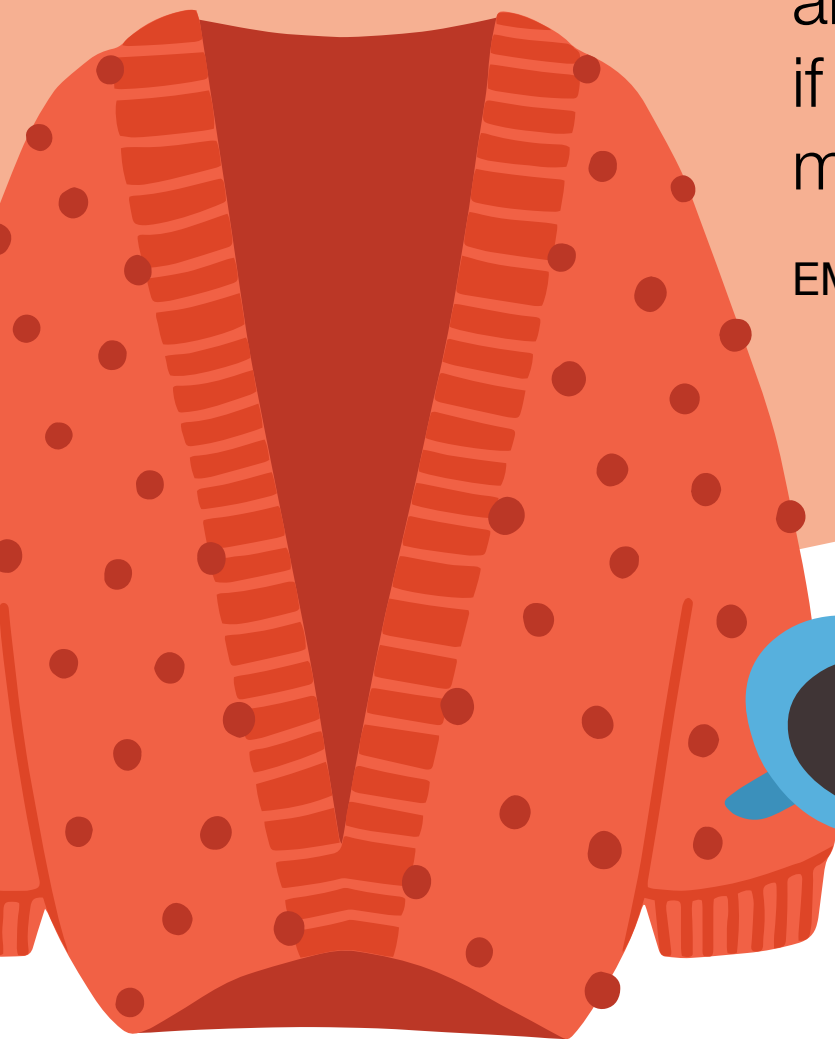
To prevent being overwhelmed, decide beforehand what two or three sections you will look at. Maybe you only want to look for tops and sweaters that day. Going through a whole store takes a lot of time and energy.

ALESHA F.

Plan for success

Wear something easy to change in and out of. It helps if you're trying on multiple things.

EMILY L.



I save outfits I like on Instagram and Pinterest. Then I know what to look for when I'm thrifting. It helps narrow things down.

RENATA B.

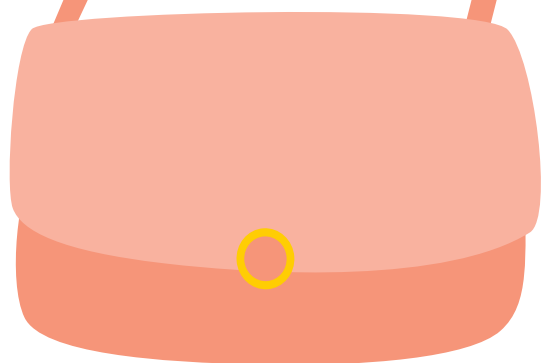
What to bring

Bring a “thrift kit” in a small pouch. Include a tape measure, a small magnifying lens (to read marks and fine print on things like jewelry), a list of current sizes and likes of your family members. It also helps to include color swatches if you are trying to match or accent something, and a wipe to check if any stains or marks are permanent or washable.

MARIAN S.

I only bring a small crossbody purse. I need my hands free to look through the racks.

EMILY L.



Shop at the best times



Ask about the store's restocking and sale schedules. If you are interested in certain types of items, try to shop soon after they are restocked for the best selection. Or go after they are on sale for the best price.

MARIAN S.



Shop for the season you're in. Preferences can change quickly so buying a pair of sandals in the middle of winter may sound fun, but by the time summer comes around you likely will forget about them or decide they aren't your taste.

ALESHA F.

Try new things

Look for basic clothing pieces with unique details. If you love wearing turtlenecks, try to mix up your wardrobe by finding turtlenecks with different textures, seam lines, sleeves or color blocking.

ALESHA F.

Thrifting is a great way to try new styles. I was so not on board for high-waisted jeans until I found a pair at MCC Thrift. Now I love them.

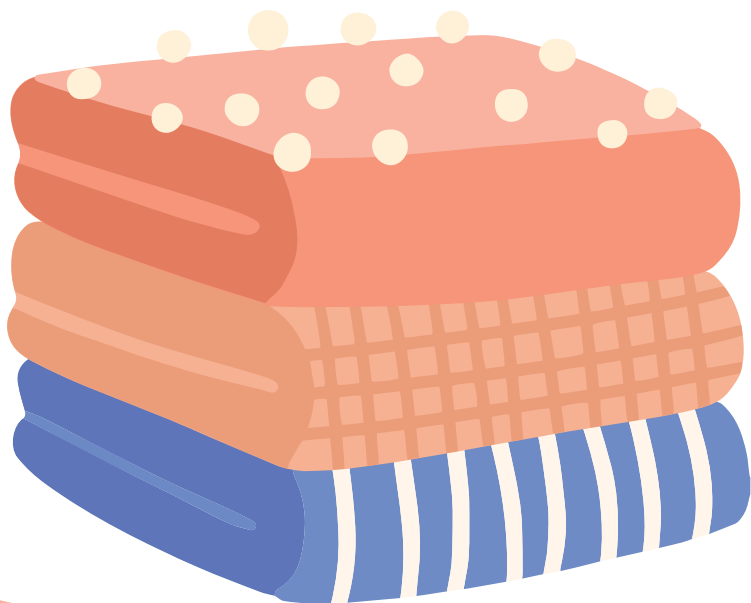
RACHEL W.



Look for particular fabrics

I run my hand along the top of the rows of clothes before I take anything off the rack. If I like the feel of the fabric, then I'll take a look.

RENATA B.



I look for wool, especially merino wool. It's often expensive new and I know it will last me a long time (even when it's pre-worn).

RACHEL W.

Evaluate what's in your cart

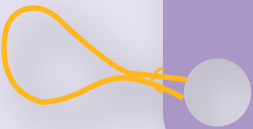
Don't spend too much time wondering if items are a yes or no. Go with your gut instinct. We make judgements within seconds, so trust yourself.

ALESHA F.



Don't buy things just because they're inexpensive. Make sure you like them.

RENATA B.



Think creatively

Sometimes fixing a hem or replacing buttons can take a piece from ok-ish to your new favorite. But make sure you either have the DIY skills needed or the time to take it to the tailor. It won't do you much good if it's just sitting there unaltered.

EMILY L.

Don't think you have to shop in a particular section. Try looking up or down a size or check out the menswear.

RENATA B.



You're one step closer to becoming an expert thrifter. Give yourself a pat on the back.

Now go out there and thrift.

And just so you know, you're also helping our planet.

Every time you choose secondhand, it means less clothing ends up in the landfill and fewer resources are needed to manufacture new clothing.

From all of us, and our planet, thank you.

