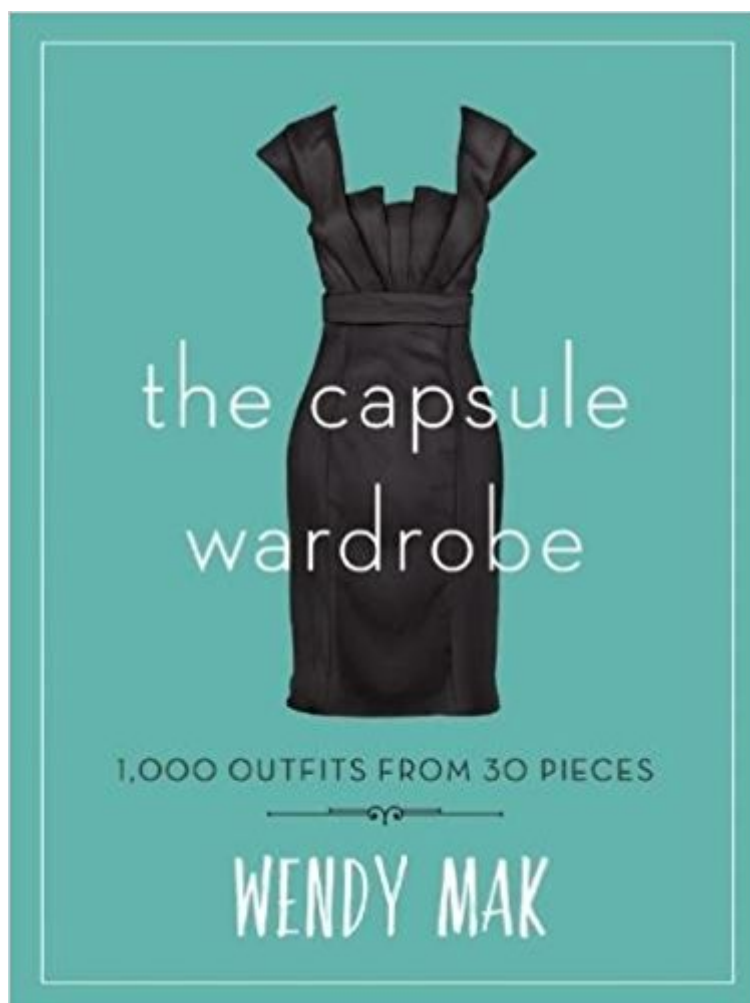


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# The Capsule Wardrobe: 1,000 Outfits From 30 Pieces



## Synopsis

De-clutter your closet, maximize your fashion choices, and reinvent your own personal style. Cluttered closets create cluttered lives. Too often we are left rummaging around an overflowing wardrobe, ironically at a loss for what to wear. However, owning a capsule wardrobe, which consists of a limited amount of clothing, will believe it or not set you free! The Capsule Wardrobe introduces thirty wardrobe essentials; tops, bottoms, footwear, and accessories; that will create the ultimate mix-and-match wardrobe for the working woman. Professional stylist Wendy Mak instructs readers on how to use different pieces together to achieve one thousand different unique looks from work to weekend. Learn to:

- Curate and build a true mix-and-match wardrobe
- Create unique everyday looks specific to body type
- Pick the right pieces to stretch your fashion dollar
- Transition from the office to after dark in a flash
- Reduce fashion mistakes and impulse buying
- And more!

With detailed descriptions and illustrations of each of the thirty pieces, plus a list of all one thousand outfits in a handy table, The Capsule Wardrobe will revitalize the way you use your closet, make dressing easy and worry-free, and help you reinvent your personal style.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Wendy Mak is a professional fashion stylist, blogger, and speaker who instructs women and men on how to simplify their wardrobes and make sound fashion choices. She has styled thousands of customers through her business Smitten with Style, and blogs at [www.WendyMak.com](http://www.WendyMak.com). She lives in

Maroubra, Australia.

Let's be clear: I hate to shop for clothes. My short (5'1"), rotund (I'm not going to share, but I'm definitely plus-sized) body does not lend itself to a happy day of perusing the racks and searching for the next great piece. Add in a relatively boring sense of style (solid colors, black pants, penny loafers) and fashion and I am not on speaking terms. If this describes you in any way, *The Capsule Wardrobe* is the book for you. Think of *The Capsule Wardrobe* as the successor to the KonMari method. If you, like me, have considered a great clean-out but panic over the idea of being naked and afraid, Wendy Mak's book will provide you with some peace of mind and comfort. Wendy Mak demonstrates that it is possible to pare your wardrobe down to 30 items and still have a functioning wardrobe. The thirty items? 7 bottoms (skirts, pants, etc.) 6 tops 6 top layer items (blazer, sweater, jacket, coat, etc.) 3 purses 6 pairs of shoes Accessories. (Don't count that. I know it's not 30 but I don't have the book in front of me right now.) Work wear, weekend wear and going out are all included. This does not include loungewear or gym wear. She doesn't tell you to pare down underwear or socks. Just your main dressing pieces. More importantly, she provides a full table of possible combinations. Again, I'm not brave or confident in my attire and my ability to match things up, so having a foolproof guide helps. This book is designed as a jumping off point and not something that is set in stone. Work with it, make it personal, and remember: each part must work with the whole. Don't buy just because it's on sale. How will the new piece work in your wardrobe? Now, the book does have a few weak points. I think every woman will raise an eyebrow at her impassioned defense of skinny jeans (or is that just me?). She defends it ably (your legs and bum don't look as bad as you think, you need to be able to tuck your pants into your boots, etc), but that might be further than most women want to go. Also, she maintains that this will give you over 1000 different looks. I think that might be overstating it, but you'll definitely get over 100. So now that it's January and I'm standing in front of my closets in disgust, looking at clothes I must have purchased on an alcoholic bender, shoes in need of repair that I haven't repaired or discarded, and shirts and bottoms I haven't worn in two years, I'm feeling brave. Between Marie Kondo and Wendy Mak, I can finally remove some of these clothes from my closet and pare down to the essentials. *The Capsule Wardrobe* is helping me make the decision on what to keep and what to toss/donate/give away and I'm doing so in the knowledge that I'll still be able to leave the house looking relatively put together in the end. Advance Reader Copy supplied by Publisher. This review is my honest opinion.

I really enjoyed this book, and I think her capsule wardrobe ideas are great. In my younger years, I

never had the basics in black, grey, taupe etc and that led to frantic times, trying to figure out what to wear to work!! I like the way she doesn't stick with any type of fashion dogma as well. One problem I did encounter with the book is that half of the length consists of lists of more than 1000 outfits which I didn't feel like was needed. One main outfit tweaked by a different purse or a different pair of shoes. To me, that's not a 'new' outfit but the old one just...tweaked. But if you have absolutely no imagination on how to coordinate your outfits, this is the book for you. When I'm buying a book like this, hardback, I always look at the page count, to make sure it's not a Kindle wonder with only 40 pages!! So in this case, the book is more like 120 pages, with the rest being lists of outfits, which I had a hard time even reading (small print, grey and very hard to read.). And that was the only reason it has a four star and not a five. Author gives lots of excellent advice, though, so it's still a recommend!!

Don't waste your money. It's all lists and hardly any photos. It's a rip off!

Not enough pictures,

The Capsule Wardrobe by Wendy Mak is the perfect starting point for building a cohesive wardrobe. Starting with steps for clearing out your current wardrobe and identifying what's worth keeping, it then guides the reader towards the items that will provide the most versatile wardrobe for the fewest total pieces. This is a guide for all of us whose wardrobe options don't match how we actually live (4 different evening dresses and 1 or fewer occasions to wear them in any given year. Lots of office attire, but my job comes with a uniform! - or is this just me?!). I found the author's style to be warm and engaging and she certainly seemed aware that not all of us would be comfortable with her first choices (but I might be tempted to give them a try having heard her perspective!) The suggested changes to the mix for different climates/lifestyles are handy too. Possibly the greatest benefit of this book is that it encourages taking stock of what you have in front of you and mixing it up! The lessons in this book will transfer well to travel scenarios too.

In a quick definition, a capsule wardrobe allows you to create multiple outfits from a few basic pieces. If you are like me and the idea of looking in your cluttered closet is getting a bit overwhelming; the capsule might be the next step in a wardrobe makeover. Wendy Mak goes on to explain her vision of thirty necessary items, from 7-bottoms, 6-tops, 6-top layer items (blazer, sweater, jacket, coat, etc.), 3-purses, 6-shoes, and accessories. Work wear, weekend wear and

going out are all included. This does not include loungewear or gym wear. This book is designed as a jumping off point and not something that is set in stone. Work with it and make it personal. Remember that each part must work with the whole. Ms. Mak then goes into the specifics of style and color to add a bit more flare. She did lose me a bit here when she talks about skinny cuts. Not everyone has the body type for skinny so you will have to adapt. Presto change-o and you have a fast new wardrobe of 1,000 options. Wait, not so fast, simple math tells you that the numbers do not add up. After a couple of pages of item suggestion and a few mix and match drawings of outfits you begin to realize that you are still not seeing 1,000 options. Then you hit the appendix and this is where the whole idea fell apart for me. Changing an accessory or shoes or purse is not a new outfit. The same jeans and basic tank are used for the first 50+ outfit suggestions. Nope, I just knew that this was too good to be true.

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