



Suit Up - Lead On Look Book

Neeley students have numerous opportunities to demonstrate their emerging professionalism through class presentations, networking events, career fairs, and interviews for internships and jobs. Wearing professional business attire allows students to "look the part". This look book is designed to provide some guidance.

Black, Charcoal or Navy is ideal for an initial suit. These colors are dominant in the professional realm due to their style versatility.

White is the best color for shirts and blouses. While other colors and patterns may work well with business suits, consider building a white shirt collection first.



BLAZER AND BLOUSE

Ensure your blouse complements the blazer. Avoid blouses that are too sheer or revealing. They should be modest enough to remove your blazer if that becomes necessary.

Fabric: Blended fabrics (e.g., a combination of polyester, rayon, etc.) are most common and recommended for the suit. Blended fabrics (e.g., polyester, silk, rayon) are common for blouses. Avoid lace, mesh and other design details that may be too distracting.

Fit: Ensure the blazer is tailored. Blouses may be button-up or v-neck, simply ensure it is modest.



SKIRT | DRESS | SHOES

Fabric: The fabric of the dress and skirt should ideally match or compliment that of the blazer.

Fit: The skirt and dress should be knee length. Your dress and skirt should not be too form fitting or tight. Pants should be ankle length.

Always wear hosiery and close-toed basic solid black shoes with heels no higher than 3 inches



Never button the bottom button on your jacket and unbutton your suit when you sit.

THE MEN'S SUIT

Fabric: Wool is the go-to fabric because it breathes easily, dyes easily, is durable, highly water-resistant and resists wrinkling. The fineness of wool is described using a *super* number, such as *Super 180*. Don't get sold on *super numbers* as the standards vary across suits and the way a suit is threaded will make a significant difference in the feel and quality.

Fit: There are two categories of fit for a suit, classic or slim. You will know fairly quickly which one works best for you after trying on a couple suits. The important factor here is to get a suit that fits your body type, if you do that you will look sharp.

Wear a suit jacket without a tie for a more casual look — avoid wearing just a shirt and tie.

THE SHIRT

Fit: Neck size and sleeve length measurements are needed to select a well-fitting dress shirt. Do not guess, it is not as easy as you think. The sleeve length should allow for ~1/4" to be seen past the cuff of the suit jacket.

Fabric: Cotton is the best fabric for durability. Wrinkle-free shirts are a great low maintenance option.

Shirts must be clean and fully pressed. It is a much sharper look.



The point of your tie should be no lower than the middle of your belt buckle.



A nice belt and a pair of Oxfords or a Monk Strap will complete your look.

Dress socks are a must and should match your pants; dress shoes should match your belt.

THE TIE

Color: Blue, Red, Yellow, Green and everything in between. Consider the season and rate it on how much it says, "notice-me". If that rating is too high, choose a different color.

Pattern: The same "notice me" caution applies to patterns. Look for subtle designs.