

A

Some items of clothing

At this level you probably already know most of the everyday words for clothes. Here are some items of clothing or parts of them which are perhaps less familiar.



Language help

Most items of clothing covering the legs are plural words only. If you wish to count them, you need to say, e.g. **Six pairs of** trousers/shorts/tights/jeans/underpants or *Jamie's football shorts are too small for him now. I need to get him **a new pair**.*

B

Verbs associated with clothing

Can I **try on** these grey shoes in the window?

I love **dressing up** for parties as I normally wear jeans.

The skirt is too tight and too short - it needs **letting out** and **letting down**.

The dress is too loose and too long - it needs **taking in** and **taking up**.

He **changed out of** his weekend clothes **into** his uniform.

Red usually doesn't **suit** people with ginger hair.

Her black bag **matches** her shoes.

Those shoes don't **fit** my son any more. He's **grown out of** them.

C

Adjectives for describing people's clothing

How things fit: **baggy** [loose] **close-fitting** [tight]

Style: **long-sleeved** **sleeveless** **V-neck** **round-neck**

Materials: **denim** [jeans are usually made of this] **woollen**

[made of wool] **suede** [a kind of leather that isn't shiny]



pinstriped



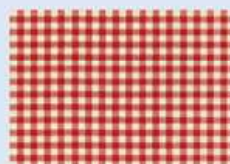
spotted



plain



striped



checked



flowerly



tartan

D

Other words and expressions useful for talking about clothing

Anna always looks very **elegant** even when she's dressed **casually**. [in a casual or informal way]

I don't think it's worth spending money on **designer** sunglasses. [made by a famous or fashionable designer]

Does your country have a special **national costume**?

Alessandra's put her top on **inside out** - I can see the label!

The burglars wore **masks** and hoods as a **disguise** in the hope that no one would be able to recognise them on CCTV.

Exercises

27.1 Which words illustrated in A opposite fit best in the following sentences?

- I've eaten too much - I'll have to loosen my belt.
- I must get my black shoes repaired. One is broken and both the have holes in them.
- Do up your or you'll fall over.
- It's not very warm today. You should wear a over your shirt.
- Put your on - this floor is very cold.
- I've almost finished making my dress for the party but I've still got to take up the and sew on some
- It's starting to rain - why don't you put your up so you don't get wet.
- Come on, children. It's time for bed. Go and put your on.
- You must wear a when you ride a motorbike.
- Maya went on holiday last week. She packed her beach towel but forgot her so she couldn't go swimming.

27.2 Complete these sentences with any appropriate word. Use *pair* where it is necessary.

- Josh badly needs to buy a new pair of jeans.
- Blue are a kind of international uniform for young people.
- It's too cold for Put your trousers on.
- Dad needs some new underpants. Can you buy him three today?
- I've got a hole in my tights. I'll have to change into a new

27.3 Write two items of clothing that collocate with these adjectives.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 close-fitting <u>top, jeans</u> | 4 woollen |
| 2 baggy | 5 suede |
| 3 checked | 6 denim |

27.4 Which words and expressions from D do these pictures illustrate?



1 Natasha always looks elegant.



2 Japanese



3



4



5 He's turned his pockets

27.5 Put the right verb, *match*, *suit* or *fit*, into each of these sentences.

- The blue dress fits her perfectly now she's had it taken in.
- The blue of her dress the blue of her eyes.
- That blue dress the girl with the blonde hair.
- I can lend you a pair of slippers if you like. I think these ones should

27.6

Over to *you*

Describe in as much detail as you can how you are dressed. Use as many words as you can from this unit.