

PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE

What is it?

Professional Attire is clothing that aligns with a specific workplace's expectations and standards.

What is considered professional attire can vary between different departments, industries, and positions.

WHY IT MATTERS



First Impressions

- Formed within seconds and difficult to change
- Impacts opportunities
- Signals time, attention, and care to what we are doing

Perceptions

- Looking sharp and professional signals that we *are* sharp and professional
- Attract specific attention and stand out for promotions and/or opportunities

Confidence

- Helps you feel more professional and prepared
- How we look can impact how we feel
- When we feel better about ourselves, how we carry ourselves changes

Workplace Norms

- Shows that we take the situation seriously
- Shows respect to workplace norms and standards
- You are also setting your own personal brand

Business Formal

Suits, ties, dresses, dress
shoes

Business Professional

Blazers, dress pants,
closed-toe shoes

Business Casual

Slacks, polo shirts,
dresses

BUSINESS FORMAL (MOST PROFESSIONAL)

What it includes:

Suits, dress shirts, ties, dress shoes, professional dresses, blazers, heels, or closed-toe flats.

Example outfits:

Black or navy suit with a button-down shirt and tie; a blazer with a pencil skirt and closed-toe shoes

When it's appropriate:

Job interviews for corporate positions, networking events, formal presentations, career fairs.





BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL

(LESS FORMAL, STILL POLISHED)

What it includes:

Dress pants, blouses, blazers, button-down shirts, loafers, dress shoes, lighter colors, relaxed material.

Example outfits:

A blazer with dress pants and loafers; a blouse with a knee-length skirt and flats

When it's appropriate:

Office jobs in industries like banking, law, or business, public facing roles where high professionalism is expected.

Business Casual

(Professional but Relaxed)

What it includes:

Polo shirts, khakis, sweaters, blouses, dark jeans (in some cases), dress shoes, flats.

Example outfits:

Cardigan over a blouse with dress pants; a polo with slacks and dress shoes.

When it's appropriate:

Many entry-level office jobs, internships, and customer service roles. Casual workplace environments, most college events (workshops, presentations)



BUDGET FRIENDLY SHOPPING



Essential Staples - Choose items that can work for multiple outfits. Blazers, dress pants/skirts, button down shirt, sweater/cardi, dark jeans/dresses, dress shoes.

Stick to Neutral Colors – Black, navy, gray, white, beige. Stripes & patterns can also work to bring in your own style.

Mix & Match – 2 pants, 2 tops, 2 blazers = 12 outfits; 3 of each = 36 outfits. Get clothes you can use across multiple outfits.

Try Everything On – Items should fit well and you should be comfortable in them.

Slow and Steady – Buy slowly and intentionally, starting with essentials and build over time.

Check Sales – Look for quality items at discounted rates.

Go Thrifting - Look for high-quality items in good condition.

Use What You Have - Work around your existing wardrobe and reimagine how to use different pieces.

Know Where You Go - H&M, Old Navy, TJ Maxx, JCPenney, Amazon, Marshall's



Resources



MAKE GOOD'S TAY SHOP AT THE EMPORIUM
The TAY Shop is a Resource Center for transition age foster and system-impacted youth ages 18 - 27* years old to shop **FREE** of charge.
*Up to age 30 years if enrolled in a program of higher learning.

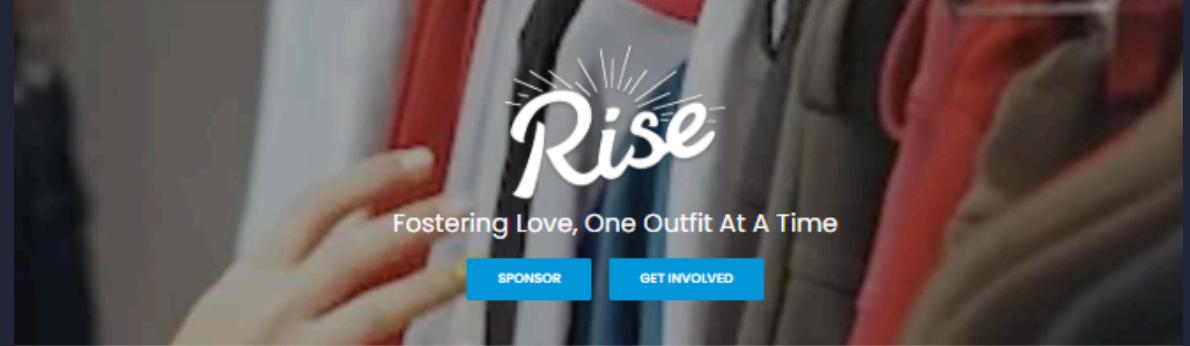
SHOP FOR BRAND NEW CAREER & CASUAL CLOTHING, TOILETRIES, UNDERWEAR, ACCESSORIES, SCHOOL SUPPLIES, BOOKS, BACK PACKS, PURSES, SOCKS, SHOES & MORE!

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
A confirmed appointment is required to shop.
To schedule an appointment, please email us at: info@makegoodinc.org
Small groups are welcome!
[CLICK HERE](#) to set up a group appointment.

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for their support of the Emporium

Make Good
The book foundation
www.makegoodinc.org

THE EMPORIUM
POSTER RESOURCE & LITERACY CENTER
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Rise
Fostering Love, One Outfit At A Time

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Our Mission At Rise
Crafted with care by our dedicated team, this innovative storefront offers a unique and cost-free shopping experience for young women and teens in the foster care system. With the help of the generous contributions from local businesses and individuals, this project is more than a mere boutique – it is a heartfelt endeavor to foster love, one outfit at a time. Our mission is to empower teens in foster care, promote confidence, body positivity, and self-esteem during a vulnerable time in their life.

MORE THAN 25,000
TEENS IN FOSTER CARE IN CALIFORNIA

MORE THAN 152,000
TEENS IN FOSTER CARE IN NATIONWIDE

More Than Just Shopping
On average, kids have 2 minutes to grab their belongings when they are removed from their homes. The Rise Clothing Vault aims to empower youth in foster care with free desirable clothing and essentials. Our recipients get a VIP experience complete with a personal shopper, photo opportunity, beverages, and more! We want them to feel loved, empowered, and confident.

Who We Help At Rise
Rise invites foster youth ages 13-18 who need our services most to shop with us for all new and free merchandise. As children grow up in foster care their self-esteem suffers, we want to make these teens feel celebrated and cared for.

