

*Going Places. Going Strong.*

## Donation Guidelines

At Dress for Success, our core styling service depends on quality donated workwear, shoes, and accessories so we can dress our clients to nail that interview and thrive in their new role. We simply couldn't do what we do without your conscious gifting of clothing; recycling your pre-loved workwear and clothing to dress our women across Tasmania for interviews, court appearances, life events and our signature 'Got the Job!' capsule wardrobe.

Please ensure that you critically inspect the items that you intend sending to us. **Clothing MUST be freshly laundered.** Similarly, **handbags and shoes must be cleaned.** We have no budget for cleaning and want the clients to feel special in their 'new' clothes.

Please help us support our clients by following our sustainability guidelines to reduce our collective environmental footprint and improve the social impact of our services across Tasmania.

We appreciate your thoughtful donation and ask you to donate conservatively and ideally give pieces and collections that you would personally be proud to put together to deliver directly to our clients.

 <b>ITEMS ACCEPTED</b>	 <b>ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED</b>
Quality workwear; reputable modern brands	Menswear, childrenswear, swimwear, homewares
Footwear, accessories, contemporary jewellery, excluding earrings	Underwear, bras, undergarments
Knitwear and casualwear	Cosmetics and perfume due to expiry dates
Occasion wear & luxury items	High boots, unsupportive shoes/sandals, thongs

## **Donation Due Diligence Checklist**

Put on that stylist hat and ask yourself if your donation is appropriate for either 1) a professional job interview or 2) workwear (smart business casual environments and/or trades). Would you gift it to your friend to wear to an interview? It is critical for us to provide our clients with quality clothing that will set them up for success and leave the boutique feeling comfortable and confident.

We love new or near new items (tags still on is a bonus!) in all sizes ranging from XXS to plus sizes.

Things to remember:

- Test strength in zips, studs, labels, embellishments, and elastics
- Must endure a 2nd lifetime of machine washes on warm/cold cycle
- We don't accept garments with colour-fade, pilling, uneven hems and lining, seam slippage, fraying, broken stitching and missing accessories such as buttons
- Please re-wash before donating especially if you notice marks, stains and odours. We can iron and steam but can't clean!
- We do not accept garments that look old, tired, very outdated and well-worn to the naked eye

### **Workwear**

- Reputable brands
- Skirt styles in an appropriate length
- Pants three quarter and full length, that can be easily paired with a jacket
- Jackets – durable for daily wear
- Shirts; long and short sleeve
- Tops without collars that can be worn easily under jackets
- Dresses appropriate for small business casual workplaces
- Coats for the cooler months
- Clothing items that can be easily layered

### **Footwear & handbags**

- Ankle boots, block heels, low heels and flat shoes
- Work appropriate handbags, shoulder bags, satchels, and tote bags to take to an interview or work, emptied and cleaned of contents
- Shoes and bags must be clean and odour free
- Soles of shoes must be in excellent condition without heavy wear
- Clean with no scuffs or marks
- Zips, press studs and buckles on bags and shoes in working order
- Comfortability must be a major factor

### **Accessories & jewellery**

- Work appropriate and on-trend contemporary pieces such as fine bracelets and necklaces
- Scarfs accepted but not heavy woollen winter warmers
- Please note: some plated jewellery contain nickel and copper, both of which commonly cause skin discoloration therefore, we cannot accept

**Knitwear, casualwear**

These items are perfect for our Pack & Send program and for women being released from prison. Please check items comply with our standards above.

**Occasion wear & luxury items**

Yes we take quality high-end items! If not appropriate for work, they may be gifted to clients or we will sell at one of our signature pop-up fashion sales. These are important fundraisers for us with all proceeds directly supporting our operations and employability programs.

We abide by the Circular Economy model to recycle, reuse and resell – aiming to avoid landfill. Items may cycle through a number of sales and then donated to one of deserving partner charities.