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Clothes

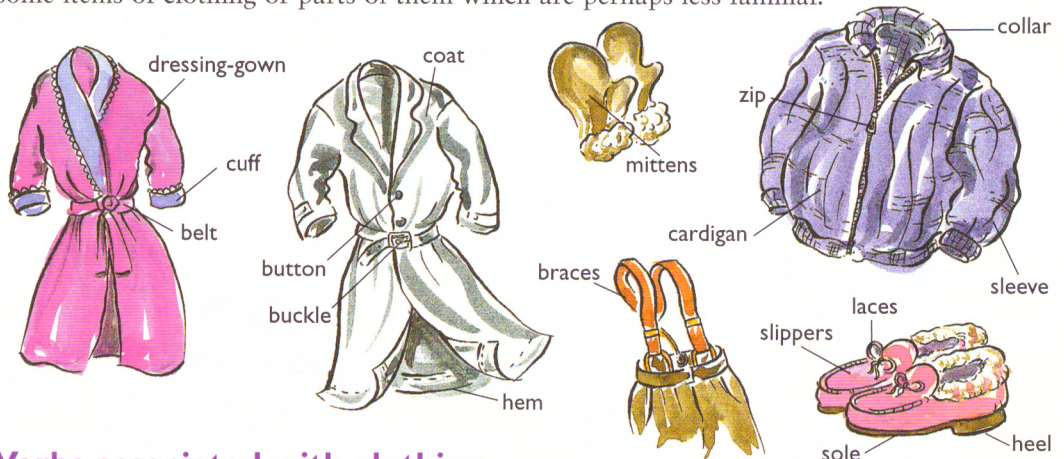
A

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.



NOTE

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'. (See Unit 33.)



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** the boy any more. He's **grown out of** them.

C

Adjectives for describing people's clothing

How things fit: **baggy loose tight close-fitting**
 Style: **long-sleeved sleeveless V-neck round-neck pleated**
 How people look: **elegant smart scruffy chic trendy messy old-fashioned fashionable well-dressed badly-dressed**

D

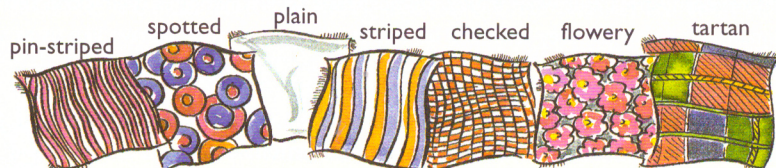
Materials which clothes are often made of

A **silk** shirt feels soft and light but also warm. **Cotton** shirts are cool but they need ironing. **Velvet** skirts are rich and warm for winter parties. Jeans are usually made of **denim**. **Suede** is a kind of **leather** but it isn't shiny. **Nylon, polyester and lycra** are artificial fibres.

We get **wool** from sheep; **woollen** clothes keep you warm when it's cold. All the above words for materials except **wool** and **woollen** can be nouns or adjectives.

E

Adjectives used to describe the patterns on materials



See Unit 37 for more useful vocabulary for describing someone's appearance.