



DELAWARE 4-H

Ready to Wear Portfolio Guidelines

This activity is open to all 4-H'ers, ages 8-19 but especially designed for those age 12 and older, involved in making clothing selections for their personal wardrobe.

OBJECTIVES

Junior and Senior Division

4-H'ers will learn to plan their wardrobes and customize clothing:

- with styles that make the most of their figure type.
- based on personal style.
- with clothes that flatter their individual coloring.
- by making the most of the clothes they already have.

CONTEST INFORMATION

Part 1: Complete and submit the [Intent to Participate](#) form by deadline: **April 3, 2023.**

Part 2: Complete your Ready to Wear Portfolio based on the provided [Template](#). There are 6 activities* to complete. The activities required to complete are:

- Activity 1 - Wardrobe Roll Call
- Activity 2 - Fashion Fits
- Activity 3 - Ready, Set, Shop
- Activity 4 - TLC For Your Clothes
- Activity 5 - Project Outfit
- Activity 6 - Write Your Narrative

Part 3: Submit Portfolio to **Kent County 4-H Office** by **April 17, 2023, Close of Business (4:30pm).**

Part 4: Attend Clothing Showcase at **New Castle Building, Delaware State Fairgrounds** on **April 23, 2023 at 1:30pm. Showcase will begin at 4:30pm.**

* Activities are modeled after those developed in [Shopping Savvy by The Ohio State University](#).

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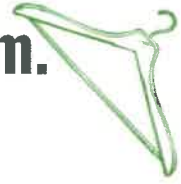


person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex, disability, age, or national origin.





Part 1: Complete Intent to Participate Form.



Part 2: Complete Activities

Activity 1 - Wardrobe Roll Call Activity

An organized closet can make or break your morning routine of getting ready. When trying to find clothes to wear, it takes longer when your drawers and closet are cluttered with items that no longer fit, are out of style, or are full of things you just don't like to wear. By regularly going through your closet you can stay organized, keep clothes neat, and avoid frustration.

WHAT TO DO

1. Take everything out of your drawers or closet and return only the items that you like and fit well. Do one drawer or closet section at a time.
2. Try on items you have not worn in a while to make sure they still fit.
3. Organize and fold the items you keep. As you return items, keep track of what you have. This will help you be a better consumer.
4. Items that need to be mended or cleaned should be put in a separate pile to be fixed at another time, but don't forget to fix or clean them.
5. Decide what to do with any items you are not keeping. They can be handed down to a younger family member or friend or donated to a local charity. Damaged or badly stained items can be recycled for rags or thrown away.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Project Skill: Assess the contents of your wardrobe and remove unneeded items.

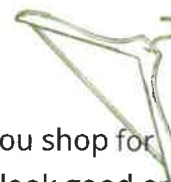
Life Skill: Organizing information and making decisions.

Educational Standard: NASAFACS 2.1.1: Apply time management, organizational, and process skills to prioritize tasks and achieve goals.

Success Indicator: Sorts wardrobe and removes unneeded clothes.

**See Ready to Wear Portfolio Template for
specific activities and writing prompts.**





Activity 2 - Fashion Fits Activity

Shopping does not always result in a purchase. Purchase is not required. When you shop for clothes, allow enough time for trying them on. Making sure they fit correctly and look good on you saves frustration and return trips to the store later. Not everything of the same size fits the same way. Sometimes the same size fits differently depending on the manufacturer or style.

WHAT TO DO

1. Select one type of clothing item to try on (jeans, sweatshirt, button-down shirt, etc.). Members who are repeating this project should choose a different type of clothing item than in the past.
2. Go to one or more stores to try on clothes. Select at least three of the same article of clothing (such as jeans) in the same size, but select different brands.
3. Try on these three (or more) items to see how they fit.
4. Decide which ones fit the best.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Project Skill: Understanding the need to try on clothing items to determine the best fit.

Life Skill: Selecting items among alternatives.

Educational Standard: NASAFACS 2.1.1: Apply time management, organizational, and process skills to prioritize tasks and achieve goals.

Success Indicator: Identify best brand for each clothing item.

See [Ready to Wear Portfolio Template](#) for specific activities and writing prompts.





Activity 3 - Ready, Set, Shop

Are you ready to go shopping? First, you need to decide how much you are going to spend if you find something new that fills a wardrobe gap.. Then, you can decide where to shop. Stores, catalogs, the internet, and even TV shopping networks are possibilities. No matter what shopping environment you choose, having a budget is critical.

WHAT TO DO

1. Shop in different types of retail environments for a similar item. (No purchase is necessary for this activity.) Be sure to shop in at least one store and on one website. Can you find a catalog to shop from? That would be good too.
2. In the Shopping Comparison Chart record the retail environment, item, description, original cost, shipping cost (if it applies), sale cost, type of sale (if on sale), and the total cost including tax. Ask your project helper how much sales tax is in your area and how to calculate it for each item.
3. Members repeating this project should select a more advanced item to shop for, such as a bathing suit, coat, business suit, or formal. You should also shop in additional retail environments, including a specialty store.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Project Skill: Comparing retail options to determine best price for the same clothing item.

Life Skill: Selecting items from among alternatives.

Educational Standard: NASAFACS 2.1.4: Apply consumer skills to providing and maintaining clothing.

Success Indicator: Determines best price for each clothing item.

See [Ready to Wear Portfolio Template](#) for specific activities and writing prompts.





Activity 4 - TLC For Your Clothes

Taking care of your clothes keeps them looking like new. Wearing well-kept clothes helps you look your best, and builds your self-esteem. Tender loving care (TLC) for your clothes involves treating stains, washing, drying, putting them away properly, and mending when necessary. A little bit of time spent on caring for your clothes also saves money and keeps you organized.

WHAT TO DO

1. Plan to do at least three loads of laundry.
2. Sort laundry by color and material weight or both.
3. Treat any stains.
4. With help, if needed, determine water temperature and appropriate cycle.
5. Add detergent and any other needed products (example: softener).
6. Determine the best drying method and dry when ready.
7. When finished, put clothes away.
8. If you are repeating this project book, do additional loads and try something different, such as stain treating, washing delicates, or washing bulky items\ (pillows, blankets, or throw rugs.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Project Skill: Learning how to clean and put away clothing.

Life Skill: Being responsible.

Educational Standard: NASAFACS 2.1.4: Apply consumer skills to provide and maintain clothing.

Success Indicator: Routinely clean and put away clothing.

**See Ready to Wear Portfolio
Template for specific activities
and writing prompts.**





Activity 5 - Assemble Your Outfit

WHAT TO DO

Now it's time to assemble your outfit, including a top and bottom, that is suitable to wear in public. The outfit should fit the participant's needs, fit into the existing wardrobe and be practical for the participant's activities. Although no purchase is necessary, be penny wise if making a purchase.

See additional guidance on the next page related to selecting your Ready to Wear outfit.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Project skill: Reflecting on project experience

Life skill: Processing information summary

Educational standard: NA

Success indicator: Completes summary of project experience

See [Ready to Wear Portfolio Template](#) for specific activities and writing prompts.





Guide to Selecting Your Ready to Wear Outfit



Definition of an Outfit: An outfit is a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look.

Informal or Casual Wear: A complete outfit of 1 or 2 pieces suitable for school, weekends, or casual, informal activities.

Dress Up: This is suitable for special, church, or social occasions that are not considered to be formal. It may be an outfit of one or more pieces with or without its own costume coat or jacket (lined or unlined). This is not an outfit that would be worn to school, weekend, or casual, informal activities.

Free Choice: A complete outfit comprising garments that do not fit in the other classifications. Examples include: tennis wear, swimwear, athletic or sportswear, lounge wear, riding habits, historic, dance, theatrical, or international costumes, capes, or unlined coats.

Suit or Coat: The suit consists of two pieces including a skirt or pants and its own lined jacket. It is not a dress with a jacket as in "dress up wear". The coat is a separate lined coat. It will be judged separately as a coat with its own accessories.

Separates: Consist of two or more garments that must be worn as a coordinated complete outfit. Each piece should be versatile enough to be worn with other garments.

Formal Wear: This outfit may be one or more pieces suitable for any formal occasion, such as prom, weddings, and formal evening functions.

Accessories: Defined as accents that add to the total look and do not need to be sewn by the 4-H'er.





Activity 6 - Write Your Narrative

Now it's time to evaluate your project outfit. Model your outfit, including the accessories, in front of a mirror. Rate how it looks using the Seven Clues Review below. You may want to ask your project helper for input too. List all the positive features for each category, then comment on what you could improve. Congratulations on putting together your project outfit!

See additional guidance on the next page related to writing the narrative for your Ready to Wear outfit.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

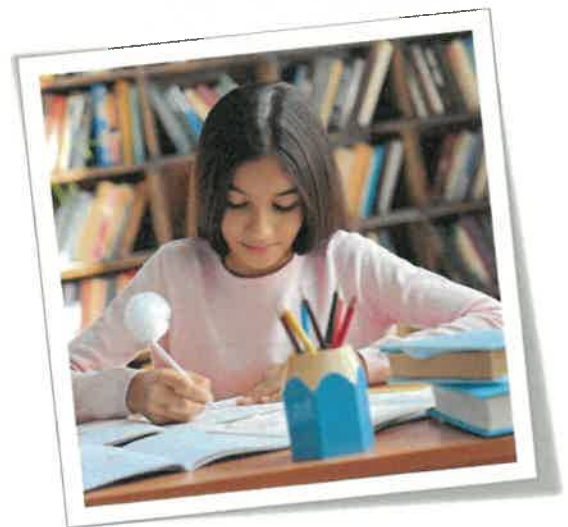
Project skill: Reviewing the total look

Life skill: Completing a project

Educational standard: NA

Success indicator: Evaluates total look and presentation using Seven Clues

See [Ready to Wear Portfolio Template](#) for specific activities and writing prompts.





Guide to Writing Your Narrative

Write a paragraph providing information about you and your outfit. Use the "writing your narrative" guide to help you create your narrative.

An example of a GOOD commentary:

Sixteen-year-old Jody Rice is ready for the cool weather in this cotton/polyester blouse. Jody loves the color yellow and already had this lovely scarf as part of her wardrobe. She chose to pair this lovely blouse with the scarf for an upcoming sports banquet. She really feels this is a perfect outfit for her and makes her feel very special when she is wearing it. While completing this project, Jody learned a lot about being consumer savvy and how to look for a good buy when trying to develop her wardrobe. Besides sewing, Jody runs track and is the senior class secretary at Woodward High School. She is currently the president of the Montrose 4-H Club, and participates in the 4-H project areas of Foods, Clothing, Sheep and Leadership. This blouse will be quite useful to brighten up her winter wardrobe. Enjoy looking great at your upcoming sports banquet.

In preparing commentaries:

- Write light and lively descriptions.
- Be informative.
- Use active words, such as "Stepping out . . ." or "Ready for . . ."
- Use catchy phrases. Look in fashion magazines at ads.
- Avoid the obvious. Rather than saying, "yellow dress," say "sunny" or "lemon." Say "Buttons brighten the front," instead of "It buttons up the front."
- Create an appealing mental picture.
- The commentary should equal the time the model is on the stage.

Descriptions might include:

- A lead sentence introducing the model by name, club, etc.
- Details of the garment.
- What the model has learned (selection/techniques).
- Accessories used.
- How the garment reflects the current fashion scene.
- 4-H background and special interests of the model.



READY TO WEAR narratives might include:

- Amount of money saved.
- Special advantages/versatility, ease of care.
- Exit cue. "Have fun in the sun, Jennifer." "A great look for college next year."



Part 3: Submit Portfolio for Judging

We need information on how to submit a complete portfolio including the deadline.

Part 4: Attend Clothing Showcase

Date: April 23, 2023

Time: noon-8pm

Do the RTW and Clothing Contest Members report at different times?

Place: New Castle County Agriculture Building at Delaware State Fairgrounds

Instructions: If entering both contests wear a bathing suit or close-fitting t-shirt and shorts beneath your Clothing Construction outfit to the event. You will have enough time to change into your RTW outfit while other participants are modeling.. However, you may not have complete privacy while changing. To respect your modesty please avoid having to strip down to your underwear.

I know that can and should be written more eloquently – but you get the idea....



Delaware 4-H Clothing Showcase Intent to Participate

