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Tanya Heath's Convertible Shoes Transform From Heels to Flats in No Time

by [Yuka Yoneda](#), 04/19/12

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[Tanya Heath](#) had no qualms switching out her vertiginous heels for comfier flats on her commute home—that is, until she moved from her native [Ottawa](#) to [France](#), where she found work at a strategy firm in 1998. Ridiculed relentlessly by her co-workers, Heath spent 10 years—and three pregnancies—walking on stilts to fit in. That's when her inner entrepreneur decided enough was enough. Heath made it her mission to design the perfect shoe, one that combined the mobility and ease of a wedge with the unstoppable glamour of a stiletto. Her solution? [Interchangeable heel heights.](#)





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Available in an array of colors and styles, Heath's [convertible shoes](#) can be paired with an assortment of heels, from a chunky two-inch platform (for hopping on the subway) to a dizzying four-incher (for a high-powered powwow or drinks with the girls after work).

Heath's convertible shoes can be paired with an assortment of heels with different heights.

It took 14 engineers and shoe technicians, more than \$40,000 in research costs, and the sale of her family's apartment to pull off, but Heath finally honed in on a mechanism that requires only a secure click of a button. The result is one of the best technically executed examples of convertible footwear we've seen.

"I created this shoe so that women would have a shoe that reflected their multi-facets: smart, pragmatic, pretty, and sexy all at once," Heath tells Ecouterre. "Above all I want the notion of having to suffer to be beautiful to disappear and I hope my shoe will be as liberating as when women left the corset behind."

Her shoes don't come cheap—they run for \$370 plus tax—but each starter pair includes two sets of heels. They're available at [Printemps Lyon](#) in Paris, but if you're not in France, you can also order a pair through her website.

+ Tanya Heath





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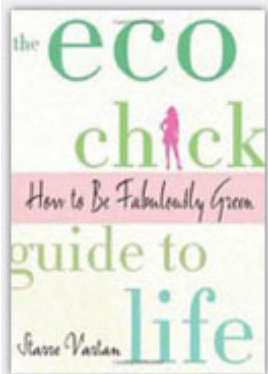
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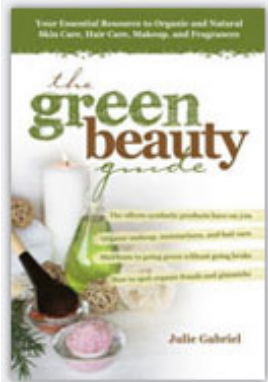
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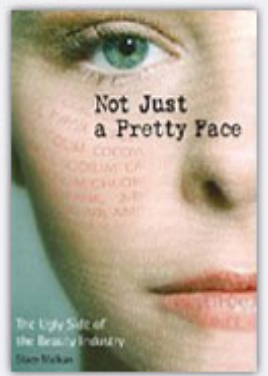
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An advertisement for English Town featuring the EF logo and the text "Offre Spéciale Economisez 48€ ! Inscrivez-vous maintenant ▶". The background is blue and the text is white and orange.

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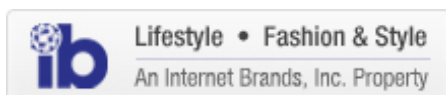
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