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by She She Me

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What to Wear to The Holiday Parties

The fashionista slinks through her life, waiting for opportunities to strut her stuff, perfectly styled, shod, and accessorized. Every trip out in public, be it work or a social event or just a quick shopping trip (ok, when are they ever quick?) becomes a test of her coordinating skills and her bargain-hunting prowess. But I have to admit, there are frequently occasions for which I am slightly, how shall I put this, overdressed. While you may think that heels and lipstick to Trader Joe's are an obvious mismatch, in my defense there are invitations that are much more nebulous in their wardrobe requirements (what the heck is "dressy business casual"????).

But agah, the sweet Holiday Season! It's like the whole world goes black-tie during the holidays. From the holiday party at work to the neighborhood open-houses to cocktails with friends, suddenly satin, silk, velvet and high heels are de rigueur. And then there's New Year's Eve: anything goes. My personal favorite is a slim tuxedo with outrageous sandals and a very slinky little top underneath, sparkly earnings and a fantastic clutch, but you could do jeans and a sweater, or a crinkly full skirt with flats and a little tee. There's no wrong outfit! You're limited only by your imagination. Come on ladies! Take a chance. Open your minds and try something new. Here are some ideas, from casual to dressy, to get you started:

Cookie Decorating Party:

Festive but not foolish. Where your nutty aunt would pull out her holiday sweater with the jingle bells and the trees (eeek!), you should aim for a more subtle nod to the season. Try corduroys with a rich jewel-tone sweater in a deep green or burgundy, and metallic flats.. Or a chunky sweater dress with tights and cozy boots if you're cold-blooded like me.

Family Dinner:

· Face it; you know you, your cousin and your sister-in-law will be the only ones who really notice who wears what to this gorgefest, so save your hottest haute couture for a more public outing. Here's your chance to dress up those fabulous wide-leg trousers (and still have room for dessert!), with either a natty silk blouse in a snazzy color or pattern, or a chic tunic sweater. You'll probably get roped into dish duty, so choose footwear that will let you stand in comfort: a flat, kitten heel, or snazzy oxford.

Office Party:

Tread carefully! Your bosses are watching. In a moment of doubt, always err on the side of tastefully elegant and covered up. Your best black suit can do double duty for a party if you upgrade your layers: trade the white shirt for a silky tank, swap your leather belt for one with a chain or ribbon detail, and kick off your workaday oxfords for a peep-toe pump in a pattern or bright color. Or use this excuse to add another knit jersey dress to your stable: sleek without screaming "SEXY!!", it's easy to dress up with sandals or funky peep-toes and a clutch for evening and still wear with tights and elegant boots to the client meeting next week

Cocktails with Friends:

• Shine, shine! Take this opportunity to move away from the stale denim-with-sexy-top look and get sophisticated. Pair a velvet pencil trouser with a soft, sexy blouse and some sleek pumps in a complementary color or texture. Or grab that little knit or yelvet dress, add some tights and short boots with style and a great necklace

Big Night Out:

Here's the opportunity to slip into a fabulous cocktail dress! <u>Lovely lace</u>, sumptuous silk taffeta, <u>brocade</u> with great details, or <u>floaty chiffon</u>, it's all about the dress. If you're brave, wear with bare legs, but my advice is to add a pair of opaque hose — a little security and a little insulation. <u>Towering heels</u> make the most of your stems, and one piece of statement jewelry — a giant <u>cocktail ring</u>, a gorgeous <u>chunky bracelet</u> or a long necklace — puts the icing on the cake.

The Morning After:

· Comfy. Knit, possibly even cashmere. Easy drawstring or stretch waist. Big socks and slippers. Shhhh.

Here's hoping all of your winter wishes and holiday dreams come true, and that the talk of the party is your dynamite outfit and not your table dancing. Season's Greetings!

xoxo.

She She Me

She She Me's Favorite Things!

Mad Easy Meal Prep with the Radical Pan



Brunch is always a great idea whether it's the average weekend indulgence or a feast when the entire family is together for the holidays. But, preparing omelets, pancakes, and the other fixings at home can be a hassle if you don't have the right tools. Eggs stick to the pan, omelets turn into scrambled eggs, batter from pancakes slops all over the stovetop when you flip them. The mess can add up quickly.

The Radical Pan solves common cooking struggles with a radical new design. The lip of the saute pan has an extended height on one side forming a backboard that makes it easy to flip food with a spatula against it, or you can shake the pan and flip the food around with ease just like a professional chef. I love my new Radical Pan! It makes meal prep an absolute joy and the cleanup is a snap. It is oven and dishwasher safe, but I usually just wipe it clean with a damp cloth.