

Grab Everything...Then Decide Before You Leave

Don't pass up a great piece because you may regret it later; but also be realistic. Ask yourself a few key questions before buying:

1. Do I own a similar piece already?
2. Can I wear this immediately, or do I need to wait for a special event?
3. Is this something I'd actually wear or just wish I could wear?

Feel Good

While you're shopping you should feel good about your items. You should feel comfortable wearing the items and feel good about what you're spending.

Make Friends

Strike up a conversation with fellow shoppers and employees alike. Word-of-mouth is usually the best source of information so speak up! Both may inform you of upcoming sales, coupons, discount days, local thrift store gems, help you find items in your size or give you an objective critique of your pieces.

Try New Places

Don't limit yourself to just Salvation Army & Goodwill. There are a lot of secondhand and thrift stores that are individually-owned that have some amazing items for great prices.

Have you tried second hand shopping at:

- Tightfisted Fashion**
 - Resale Stores
 - Consignment Shops
 - Thrift Stores
 - Wholesalers
 - Garage Sales
 - Yard Sales
 - Estate Sales
 - Pawn Shops
 - Liquidation Sales
 - Cultural Shops
 - Local Vendor Markets
 - Cultural or Arts Festivals
 - Online Stores (Poshmark, Vinted etc.)
 - Local Paper (Pennysaver etc.)
 - Online Sales (Ebay, Craigslist etc.)
 - Online Crafters (Etsy, BigCartel etc.)
 - Swap Meets
 - Churches or Charity Shops
 - Flea Markets
 - Auctions
 - Vintage/Antique Stores
 - Military Surplus Stores
 - Outlet Malls
 - Trunk Sales
 - Dry Cleaners or Laundromats
 - Fee Stores
- <http://freestorebaltimore.org/>

Tightfisted Fashion Thrifting Tips



Tightfisted Fashion
Resale & Consignment Store
2114 N Charles St
Baltimore, MD 21218

Email
tightfisted23@gmail.com

Website
www.tightfistedfashion.com

Go Regularly

Thrift stores are constantly changing inventory, so go frequently. Ask or research when they typically restock the store for the best inventory. Or, find out when the stores have sales or special promotions for budget items.

Use Your Imagination

Try to look at things with their potential in mind and think of way to DIY or repurpose items. With clothing, you can take things in, cut them up and make pieces shorter or refashion an item into something unique.

BYOB

Bringing your own bag is not only a great way to save space while you shop, it also helps you save money. It makes you feel connected to your items, and is eco-friendly.

Shop the Whole Store

Don't limit yourself to the women's or men's section just because that's where you usually shop. Shop the men's or women's section, the kids section, housewares and clearance etc. There are many good things hidden amongst other sections; also sometimes items are misplaced or mislabeled.

Try New Styles/Trends

Because thrifting is so cheap, you can afford to try a new style or trend. If you know you can find it thrifting, don't buy it new. Instead, find out what's current by browsing fashion magazines, blogs, websites and online department store catalogs. You could also check out area fashion shows, browse designer sketches and lookbooks, window shop at the local mall or boutique or just people-watch in a fashionable area.

****Note the colors, fabrics, shapes, accessories and combinations people are wearing and try to piece together an entire outfit rather than pieces.**

Budget

Before stepping into a thrift store, decide how much money you're willing to spend that day. Try to calculate how much each item will be to keep within that limit. Try using cash instead of cards.

Take Your Time

Take your time and go through the racks/aisles thoroughly. Enjoy the hunt. Savor the glorious moment when you find your treasure ☺

Purge

Before you go thrifting, review your closet and filter out items you no longer wear and set aside items you don't often wear. Not only does it feel good to donate items, you can also make room for new items.

****Try taking photos of the items you set aside because you don't wear them often so that you can be encouraged to find pieces to match the items.**

Inspect Your Items Before Buying

1. *Turn items inside out and look at the stitching on sleeves, collars, arm pits and linings*
2. *Check for tears, snags, pill balls, signs of damage, stains or over-wear*
3. *Inspect hardware including zippers, buttons, hook & eyes, snaps, or anything that could potentially need replacing*
4. *Take a whiff to check for any unusual or bacterial odors that cannot be removed with a good washing.*