

## UNIT: IV APPAREL CLASSIFICATION AND CATEGORIES

**Casual wear-** emphasises comfort and informality. Casual wear refers to the clothes we use for everyday wear. This style emphasises on comfort, relaxation, and informality. It includes a wide range of clothes and styles. Casual dressing gives first place to personal expression and comfort over formality and conformity.

Tee-shirts (polo shirts, turtlenecks, etc.), jeans, jackets, khakis, hoodies, summer dresses, skirts, sneakers, loafers and sandals are examples for casual wear. Sportswear, clothes worn for manual labour also falls under casual wear. It can be worn when you are going on trips, shopping, and casual outings with friends. This style is also worn by high school and college students unless the schools don't have a specific uniform. Casual wear is usually made from materials such as cotton, jersey, denim, polyester and flannel. Casual wear is not made from expensive and dressy materials such as chiffon, brocade, and velvet. Casual wear should not be worn for ceremonial events, parties, weddings and other formal events, business meetings or to work (in offices).

### **Formal Wear**

Formal wear refers to clothing that is suitable for formal events such as ceremonial events, weddings, balls, formal dinners, etc. Formal wear is nowadays mostly worn at formal dances, high school prom dances, and entertainment industry award programs.

Although most people associate black tie with formal wear, the satirically proper dress code for formal wear is white tie for evening and morning dress for daytime. Women are supposed to wear ball gowns or formal evening (floor length) gowns. Uniforms such as formal military uniforms, law court dress, academic and graduate dress are also considered as formal wear.

The following list will give a clear description of the dress code for formal wear.

### ***Formal Wear for Men***

- Black dress coat (tailcoat), matching trousers with two stripes of satin or braid(Europe or the UK) or a single stripe (the US)
- White vest
- White bow tie

- White piqué wing-collared shirt with stiff front
- Braces
- Shirt studs and cuff links
- White or grey gloves
- Black patent shoes and black dress socks

### ***Formal Wear for Women***

- Floor length evening gown long gloves (optional)
- Long gloves (optional)

### **What is the difference between Casual and Formal Wear?**

<b>Casual vs Formal</b>	
Casual is everyday wear.	Formal wear is worn for formal events.
<b>Occasions</b>	
Casual wear is worn for informal and relaxed occasions such as trips, shopping, meeting friends, etc.	Formal wear is worn for formal events such as ceremonial events, weddings, state dinners, etc.
<b>Clothing</b>	
Casual wear includes jeans, tee-shirts, skirts, summer dresses, hoodies, etc.	Formal wear includes dress shirts, dress coats, ties, trousers, long evening gowns, etc.
<b>Shoes</b>	
Sneakers, loafers, slippers, and sandals are worn for casual wear.	High-quality shoes are worn for formal wear.
<b>Materials</b>	
Materials such as cotton, jersey, denim, polyester and flannel are used to make casual wear clothing.	Materials such as satin, velvet, silk, brocade, etc. are used to make formal wear clothing.
<b>Feel</b>	

**Traditional wear** -A major part of any country's culture and people are the clothes they wear. Better known as the 'Traditional Costume or Attire' of a country, in different cultures, what a person wears is often indicative of his to her personal and social identity, marital status, occupation and sometimes-even religion.

Though following these traditions and wearing traditional clothes is slowly reducing in most countries where westernization is coming more into play, costumes and traditional wear will always have an important part, on the most important days...like festivals, weddings and important events and functions.

It maybe not be practical to wear on a daily basis in this day and age but sure enough is part of our culture and nationality which defines us as a race. India being so diverse culturally and geographically, almost every region and state in Indian has their own attire. Some similarities and common factors can be found in these costumes for instance the Sari/Saree can be called the Traditional attire of Indian Women, but the sari is worn differently in different parts of the country.

**Party Wear-** A party dress is a **dress worn especially for a party**. Different types of party such as children's party, cocktail party, garden party and costume party would tend to require different styles of dress. One classic style of party dress for women in modern society is the little black dress.

**Uniform** -It is a type of clothing worn by members of an organization while participating in that organization's activity. Modern uniforms are most often worn by armed forces and paramilitary organizations such as police, emergency services, security guards, in some workplaces and schools and by inmates in prisons. In some countries, some other officials also wear uniforms in their duties. When everyone in the business or school wears the same thing, employees and students have equal footing. No one can stand out due to better or more expensive clothing. This increases self-confidence and unifies the group. Everyone is on the same platform, regardless of economic status. Wearing a uniform means not having to buy work or school clothes. This creates less strain on the budget.

Finally, uniforms create a sense of belonging. Everyone wearing one feels at home, and that improves team building and overall satisfaction.

**Sportswear or active wear** - is clothing, including footwear, worn for sport or physical exercise. Sport-specific clothing is worn for most sports and physical exercise, for practical, comfort or safety reasons.

Typical sport-specific garments include tracksuits, shorts, T-shirts and polo shirts.

Specialized garments include [swimsuits](#) (for [swimming](#)), [wet suits](#) (for [diving](#) or [surfing](#)), [ski suits](#) (for [skiing](#)) and [leotards](#) (for [gymnastics](#)). Sports footwear include [trainers](#), [football boots](#), [riding boots](#), and [ice skates](#). Sportswear also includes [bikini](#) and some [crop tops](#) and [undergarments](#), such as the [jockstrap](#) and [sports bra](#). Sportswear is also at times worn as [casual fashion](#) clothing.

For most sports the athletes wear a combination of different items of clothing, e.g. [sport shoes](#), [pants](#) and [shirts](#). In some sports, protective gear may need to be worn, such

as [helmets](#) or [American football](#) body armour.

Sports fabrics are technical materials which help to keep the wearer comfortable during exercise. The type of fabric required will depend upon the intensity of the exercise and the activity. [Yoga clothing](#) should use fabrics with exceptional stretch ability for easy movement which will likely require the fabric to be of a knitted construction. Apparel for long distance running will keep the wearer in good comfort if it has excellent moisture wicking properties to enable sweat to transfer from the inside to the outside for the garment. Performance clothing for outdoor sports in the winter or snow sports should use breathable fabrics with very good insulating properties.

**Maternity clothing** is worn by women as an adaptation to changes in body size during pregnancy. The evolution of maternity clothing began during the Middle Ages, and became fashionable as women became more selective about style and comfort in the types of maternity clothing they wore.

Maternity wear is generally designed using a loose, suitable cut that includes elastic, tabs, stretchable fabric such as elastane, and spandex that allows the consumer extra- comfort in her gestating days. After pregnancy, many women also wear maternity clothes until they have lost the weight of pregnancy and can fit back into normal clothing.