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home front

Storage

TESSA SHAW



TED SMART

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ABOVE LEFT: MAKING SURE COATHANGERS ARE
FACING THE SAME WAY IN YOUR WARDROBE
MAKES DRESSING EASY.

ABOVE RIGHT: IF YOU LIKE YOUR CLOTHES ON
SHOW, SHOP-STYLE, THESE FABRIC HANGING
CUBES ARE CHEAP AND CHEERFUL.

BELOW LEFT: HERE, WASHING MACHINE DRUMS,
DESIGNED AS A CHEST OF DRAWERS, STORE DRY
CLOTHES FOR A CHANGE.

BELOW RIGHT: IF YOU'VE GOT THEM,
FLAUNT THEM — BEAUTIFUL CLOTHES IN AN
ENVIABLE WARDROBE.

Clothes *and* Shoes

Clothes and shoes are often big investments and if looked after will serve you well. How you store them shows how you value them. You may get pleasure from displaying your jumpers or want to hide everything away and preserve it from the moths. Whatever your style, clothes and shoes are one area where you have to make decisions.

Everyone wears them!

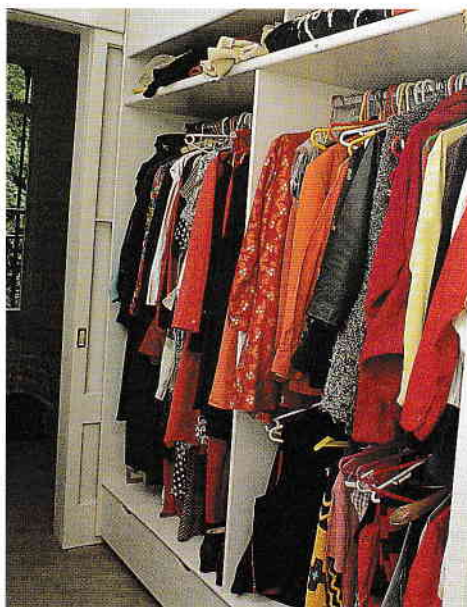


Built-in Systems

Not many people are lucky enough to be able to devote a whole area to storing their clothes and shoes, not to mention having such beautiful clothes to display. If you have the space and clothes, it must be the ultimate luxury to organize your wardrobe like this. For me, this is my dream storage space: it's totally organized without being uptight and stuffy. The clothes breathe and you can enjoy their fabrics and colours, yet there's plenty of room to hide away all the items you don't want to see every day.

Generous and sophisticated storage space can easily be achieved even if you don't have a whole room to devote to it. Using simple carpentry, you can create a whole wall of cupboard space, designing the drawers and hanging space to suit your needs. Often, starting from scratch can be the best option as you're not trying to build around other people's existing designs.

Think what sort of person you are. Do you have time to rearrange your jumpers neatly and will you fold your T-shirts and stack them carefully in your display shelving? Will it give you pleasure when you've done it? I like the idea of being tidy, but I know that it's handy to have cupboards to hide things in, too. Use the whole wall. Too often people build shelving to suit their height and end up with dead space at the top of a room. It's useful to have high-level cupboards



ABOVE: DRESSING MADE EASY – THE CLOTHES ARE GROUPED BY COLOUR AND THE HANGERS ALL FACE NEATLY TO THE BACK OF THE CUPBOARD.

for things you don't need much or which you don't want people to find!

In our picture, the couple have exciting, colourful clothes fit to be displayed. If your clothes are mainly black you may not want to show them off. If you have small children with sticky fingers, doors are a definite plus.

Don't forget the person or people you live with. Will they co-operate, and is your design simple enough to make life easier for them? If it isn't, you will get furious as you try in vain to impose your own structure.

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Below: A purpose-built, walk-in dressing room
between the bathroom and bedroom, designed
for minimum time wasting. You can tell that the
owners of these cupboards have their lives sorted!

