

# LOOKING FLY ON A DIME

*your style is never determined by your wallet*

## 5 THRIFT SHOPPING MISTAKES

*every newbie  
makes*

*how to avoid  
common  
pitfalls  
+  
score the best  
deals!*



*There are so many reasons to love thrift shopping {unique style, affordability, eco-friendly, etc.}, but it can feel super intimidating if you're new to it.*

*As someone who's been thrifting for 10+ years, I'll let you in on a little secret. Thrift shopping is pretty easy. It's all about having a few strategies and more importantly, knowing what not to do.*

*If you always find yourself striking out anytime you hit the thrift store, it's likely because you're doing one {or more} of the things below. Here's how to change that so you score the deals you deserve.*

**1** You Don't Permit Enough Time

**2** You Don't Have a Thrift Wish List

**3** You Only Visit One Store

**4** You Shop On the Wrong Days

**5** You Shop Solo

*keep reading to find the solutions  
to these common mistakes new thrifters make*



While it's not necessary to devote an entire day to thrifting, it's not enough, especially when you first start out, to only shop for 20 minutes and expect a cart full of goods. Even at a major department store you need to give yourself time, so this is no different. I suggest setting aside at least 45 minutes to shop. Get a feel for the store, the layout and even see what, if any, sales are currently going on. The thrifting magic won't happen if you're ready to leave 10 minutes after stepping foot in the door. Give it a little time.



little black dress  
colorful blazer  
thin belt  
leather jacket  
boyfriend jeans  
turtleneck

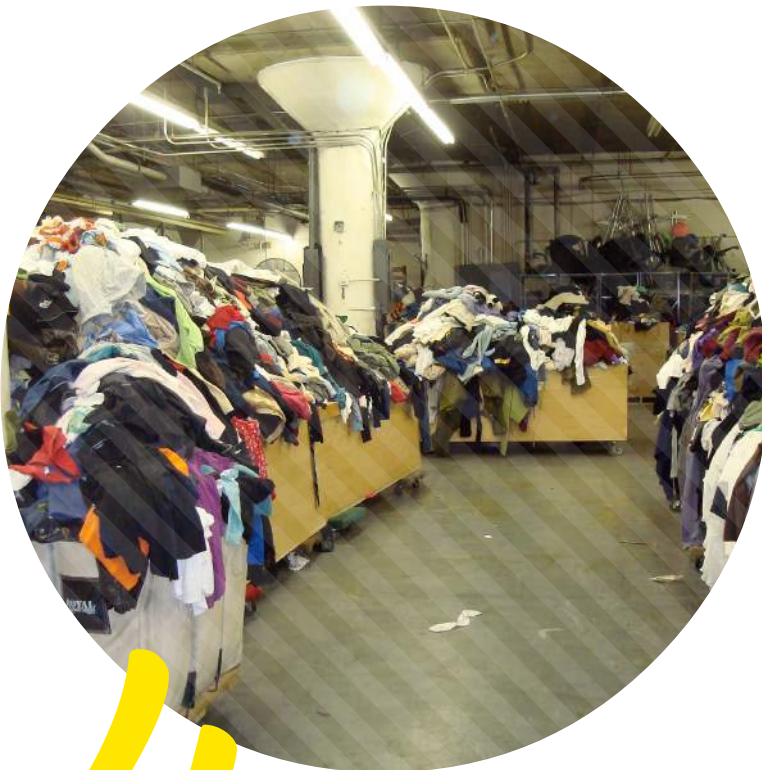
Inventory at a thrift shop is unpredictable, but it's still key to have a loose idea of what you're looking for. This gives you direction and can even cut down on aimlessly roaming every aisle. A good list is fairly general, versus being too specific. Example? A wish list can include a little black dress, but an a-line little black dress with a scalloped hem and laser cut outs is a bit too specific. That's not to say you won't find the garment of your dreams, but when you're super specific about what you want, it's likely you'll walk away disappointed when you don't find it.

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I'm a creature of habit, but in the world of thrifting, you need to switch it up. Having a few go-to shops make your experience much better. If one store has a less than stellar selection, go to another one! Also, take into account the neighborhood you're shopping in. The city or town's population can determine if the clothes are trendy, classic, vintage, contemporary or high-end. So instead of being frustrated that one of your shops doesn't have the best inventory at the moment, just move on to the next one that suits your needs and style.



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There isn't a "wrong" day to thrift, but some days are better than others. If you're a newbie, you might be shopping on a day that doesn't offer the best of the best. It's typical to shop on weekends, but I suggest avoiding Saturday and Sunday, if you can. First, the crowds can be overwhelming for some shoppers. But also, it has to do with donations. Most donations are received on weekends, but sales associates need time to process and tag them. So check your local shop on a Monday or Tuesday. The crowds won't be as intense and the newest items will be on the sales floor.

A little help from friends can benefit every thrift shopper. Do you associate thrifting with an overwhelming experience? Then bring along a friend{s} to take the stress off and act as an additional set of eyes and hands. Though I'm a thrift pro, I still love shopping with friends. Besides the fun of it all, sometimes they find the pieces I may have overlooked! A quick pow wow before you hit the store is all you really need. Maybe you'll focus on pants and shoes while she hits the tops and dresses. Or you can shop side by side. Either way, the process becomes much more fun and stress free.



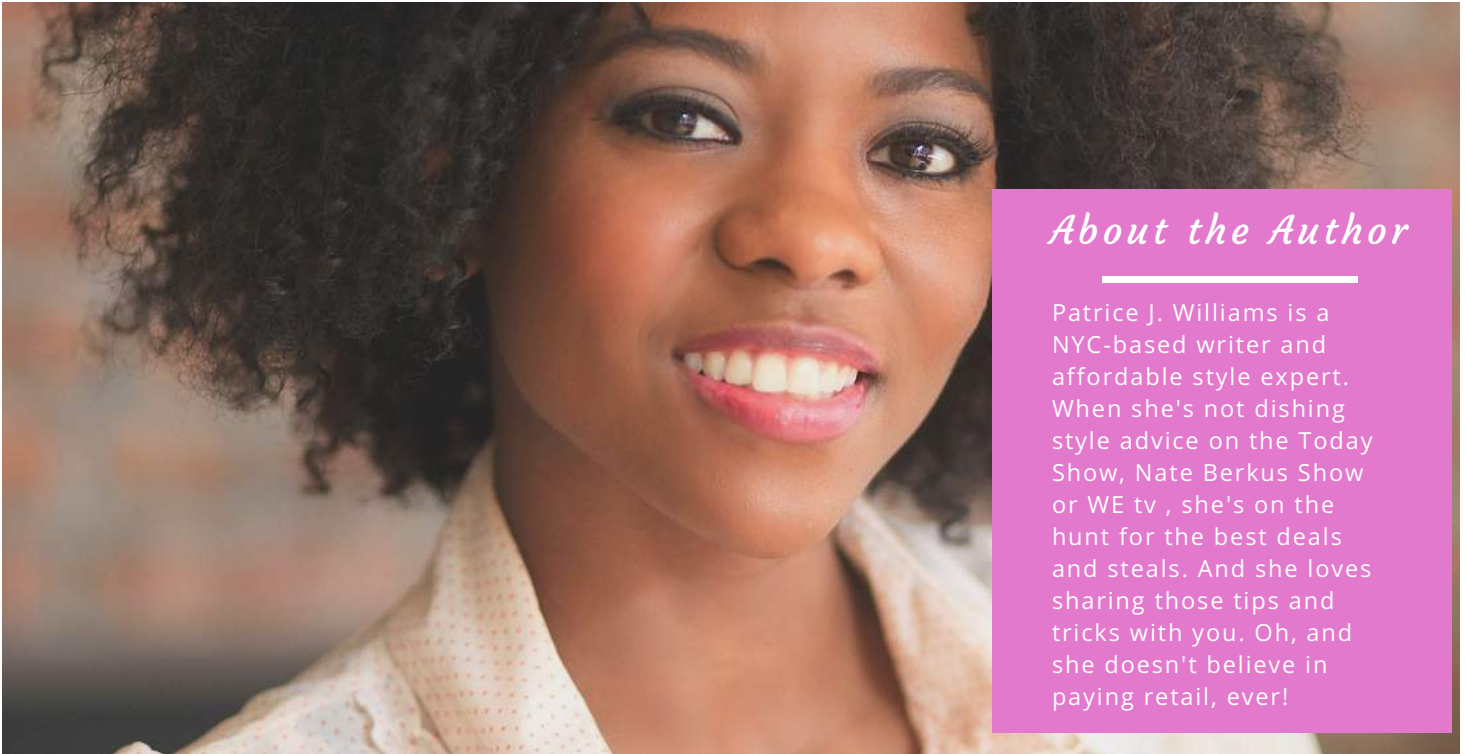
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*Thrift shopping really is a fun, affordable and eco-friendly way to meet all of your fashion needs. And it's been my preferred shopping method for more than a decade.*

*Need additional thrift shopping advice? Check out my ebook [Looking Fly on a Dime: How to Find Fabulous Fashion at Any Thrift Shop & Make the Cheap Look Chic](#). I go in-depth and share my top tips for anyone and everyone to look their best in secondhand styles.*



# FOR MORE STYLE INSPIRATION



## *About the Author*

Patrice J. Williams is a NYC-based writer and affordable style expert. When she's not dishing style advice on the Today Show, Nate Berkus Show or WE tv, she's on the hunt for the best deals and steals. And she loves sharing those tips and tricks with you. Oh, and she doesn't believe in paying retail, ever!

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Looking Fly on a Dime takes the intimidation factor out of fashion. Style should be fun and an expression of who you are and this can be achieved on any budget! Since 2009, the website has shown women of all sizes how to make "cheap" garments look chic, easy ways to develop an individual sense of style and tips to navigate any major department store or thrift shop like a seasoned pro!

Check out Looking Fly on a Dime for all things fly, fashionable and frugal.

And sign up for the newsletter to stay in the know!



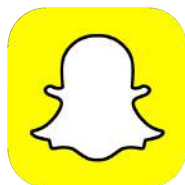
Thrift shopping is no longer a dirty little secret. It's an economical and eco-friendly way to look your best, for less. From designer clothes for less than \$1 to a bag full of clothing for 20 bucks, Looking Fly on a Dime: How to Find Fabulous Fashion at Any Thrift Shop & Make the Cheap Look Chic, breaks down the do's and don'ts of secondhand style.

With 10+ years thrift shopping on the competitive grounds of NYC, Patrice shares her top tips and tricks to get the best deals at any thrift store.

Find the book on Amazon or click the cover.

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