Clothing adjective	Meaning
	Perfectly and neatly dressed for the occasion
	After many washes, this clothing is not the same colour it used to be.
	old fashioned, boring dressing sense, unattractive and poorly dressed
	Clothes that do not match. Wearing different colour socks or wearing two pieces of clothing that have a jarring contrast.
	Dirty spots on clothing which may have been caused by food or ink spills. Dirty clothing.
	Clothes that are so old that they have become thin. They have holes or they are tattered.

mismatched	**threadbare**	**frumpy**
prim	**stained**	**faded**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Clothing adjective	Meaning
	Clothes that are wrinkled and not ironed
	Clothes that are so tight that they appear to be hugging the person, showing off their body shape.
	Torn clothes
	Very loose and comfortable clothing. The opposite of tight.
	Spotless clothes. Very clean.
	Shabby, untidy and dirty looking

immaculate	**tattered**	**roomy**
crumpled	**scruffy**	**body-hugging**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

RULES for describing clothing

RULE no. 1

Don't describe everybody. Only describe **IMPORTANT** characters

RULE no. 2

Only describe clothing if it helps to **SHOW** who your character is.

Example

It was obvious from her appearance that Jane was born with a silver spoon in her mouth.
Her dressing sense was prim. An ebony coloured A-line skirt paired with a pristine white top. Every accessory on her screamed luxury. Her stilettos were not just shiny. They were bright, brighter than my future. Her aura itself was enough to inform us never to cross her.

RULE no. 3

Only describe clothing **IF IT MOVES YOUR STORY FOWARD**. Do not bring unnecessary attention or waste space by adding a description that doesn't help your story.

Example

The article of clothing is important to the plot. Perhaps, it gets destroyed or stolen and as a result your character has to solve a problem.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Which description is better?

To say Meg's clothes were ill-fitting would be impolite. To put it nicely, one could say it was roomy. Her pullover was spacious enough to house approximately three people.

Meg wore a baby blue T-shirt matched with a pair of dark grey shorts.
She wore red loafers with blue socks. She also carried a pink backpack.

TIP: *Less is more! Instead of giving an exhausting physical description of your character from head to toe. Focus on one feature. Preferably, a flaw. Perhaps, the character wears a body hugging T-shirt that is too tight making his paunch visible. Despite that he struts around like he is fit as a fiddle.*

Or on a more serious note, you can show a character's poverty by focusing on his threadbare shirt which sports many holes. Talk about your thoughts and feelings about it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. Use an adjective to describe the dressing style.

Devon's idea of fashion was <u>frumpy</u>.
ADJECTIVE

2. Focus on one feature. Use similes, metaphors or personification to compare or describe it.

That pleated skirt was as <u>old as a dinosaur.</u>
SIMILE

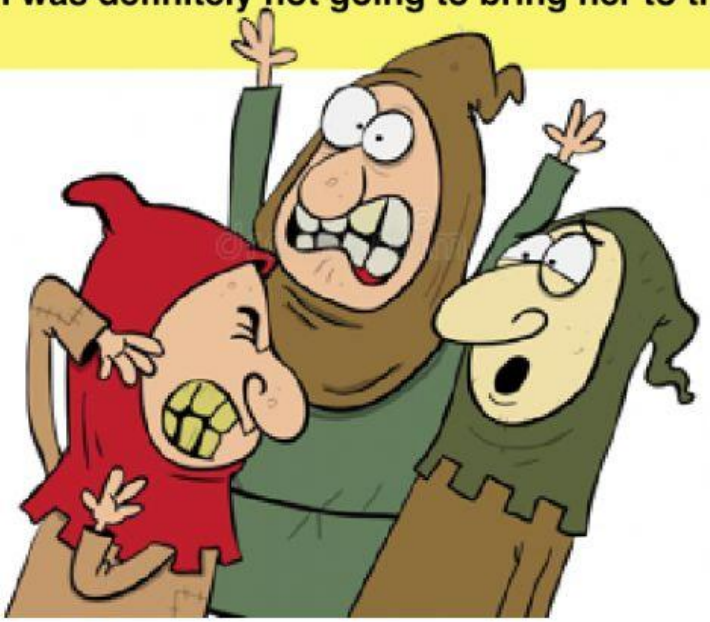
The skirt, <u>threadbare</u>, <u>clung onto dear life at her waist.</u>
ADJECTIVE PERSONIFICATION

3. Exaggerate or tell a strange story about it.

The faded colour was enough to tell us that it had fought one too many wars in the washing machine.

4. What's your opinion on it?

I had a deep desire to send Devon, her skirt and her frumpy fashion sense to a museum. I was definitely not going to bring her to the party!



LIVEWORKSHEETS

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Describe a proud character. Use the dressing style to show what kind of a person she is.

Useful analogies

She was carrying my entire month's salary as a handbag/ I could never afford that watch even if I sold both my kidneys/ She was a walking fashion magazine / Her clothes screamed luxury.

LIVEWORKSHEETS