

A GUIDE to LIVING SHABBY: FOR HIM

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It's a common misconception among my peers that the shabby life they see me living is an easy one. This cannot be more far off from the truth. Is it comfy? Yes, it most certainly is. But it is anything but easy. After tumbling into countless awkward events and unsavoury interactions, I slowly began to discover neat little tricks that can help one appear, dare I say, more acceptable to society without even knowing what they did right. Disclaimer however, this is only applicable for men.

A Single Shade of Grey: If you're not comfortable about being the centre of attention, the perfect colour for you is grey. Anything with a hint of colour will always draw attention to what you're wearing; black makes you look like a prepubescent Goth kid so that's out of the question, whereas white works great but the problem is you need to wash white clothes often, and for people like us who wash their clothes once a month if we're gracious enough, that's a big no-no. Grey however walks that perfect line in the middle, making you look decent enough without drawing attention.

Going Yolo with Polo: Polo shirts are brilliant for one simple reason. It has the comfort of a t-shirt without having to hear people question your maturity. Shirts are nice but if you're like me I highly doubt you like spending a few precious minutes buttoning that thing up. Polo shirts are simply the best of both worlds.

Cargo Pants over Jeans: I know this is a bit controversial but hear me out. When you wear jeans, you're most likely to wear a belt too. That's one extra step in dressing up that I know

you want to avoid. And since every store stockpiles on skinny jeans, even for men for some strange reason, it's incredibly difficult to find a pair that's comfy. Cargo pants on the other hand are delightfully baggy and have enough pockets to carry an arsenal. It's also surprisingly easy to blend in among people in a pair of cargo pants.

Trail Blazer: Formal programmes are one of the trials you have to go through once in a while if you're a haggard like me. It's one of those moments when the walls of comfort and peaceful living come crashing down and you're left staring blankly at a crowd wearing suits while you're wearing the previously mentioned cargo pants with a grey Polo shirt. Yeah, that's pretty bad. Now you can have a suit to back you up on these occasions but they come with a drawback. A well-fitted suit is only as good as your well-toned body, if you have one. This might not be possible if you like pasta as much as I do. This is where blazers have an edge. Blazers scratch that formal itch without needing much effort to elegantly carry. And that's pretty much all I ever needed from a formal wear.

A Friend in Need: The thing is we'll never have a drawer full of clothes suitable for every occasion. And there'll come moments, a date or an interview perhaps, when that lacking will come back to bite us in our behind. As corny as it sounds, what we need in moments like that, is a friend. We need to exploit the few friendships we have to get a makeshift solution instead of working on our questionable living style. Now I know it sounds bad but as long as it works, right? Get a friend who lives near you, is roughly your size and has a better fashion sense than you so that you can borrow his clothes in times of dire need. Desperate times call for desperate measures.

Nuren Iftexhar is your local stray cat in disguise; he interacts with people for food and hates bright light. He got Hufflepuff 3 times straight in Pottermore so

