FREE SNEAK PEEK · ELEGANT INSIDER CLUB

Christmas Dinner

One festive piece.
Everything else quiet.

Seven elegant outfits for a long, warm dinner and a cold walk from the car — each built on one festive piece, with everything else from your own wardrobe. How to choose each piece, the coat that goes over it, three things to skip and the dinner test.



OUTFIT I

The beaded bag



Net-a-Porter's chief buyer names the ornate bag her favourite piece of the season — the way she'd dress up denim. Who What Wear wears a beaded bag with a plain white tee and jeans.

WHY IT WORKS

It doesn't care about your size. No arms, knees or waist to think about — a bag fits every body the same way.

It catches the candlelight. Beads move with you and throw small points of light: festive without a single sequin on your body.

HOW TO CHOOSE IT

· Small, on a shoulder strap or a short handle — at dinner your hands are busy with a glass, a fork, a hug at the door.

· A dark ground — black, navy, deep brown — with the beading on top. Then it goes with everything you own.

· One technique: flowers, fringe or all-over beads. Not all three.

THE FORMULA

Black knit + black trousers + your everyday black shoes + the beaded bag. Nothing else sparkles.

Try: No new bag this year? One old brooch, pinned high on a black knit — the same point of light, exactly where people look.

***Avoid:** A big bag on the table. Small and on your shoulder, or it becomes luggage.*

MY VERSION

INSIDE THE FULL NOTES

Eleven more pages for members



The satin skirt · velvet with one jewel · the velvet dress · the evening jacket · shine in one place · lace at the hem — plus how to choose every piece, the coat that goes over it, three things to skip, the dinner test and a page to plan your own outfit.

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