



Do you love buying scarves but struggle to wear them?

It is so easy to buy a scarf, but often we don't feel confident to tie them or we just wear the same ones. Is this you, asks stylist Kirstie Smillie?

Sitting in front of my computer screen in July, I was pondering what to write for this article. I was struck with indecisions. What will September look like, will all the kids be back at school, will folk be taking late holidays, just what will the mood be? For the moment, chatting clothes puts me in a quandary, but accessories are the perfect solution.

When I work with clients to declutter and find outfits, a surprise box always comes out at the

end. " ...and these are my box of scarves I never wear!"

I am pretty sure we all have a stash of scarves, either bought ourselves or given as gifts. Yes, we love them but we don't wear them as often as we could. Different shapes and sizes require particular techniques but I have found some inspiration that should encourage you to uncover your own box of hidden treasure.



Pictures, clockwise from top left.: A large square scarf requires a simple drape. Diagonal fold in half, drape at front, around to back and loose tie at front; a smaller square, tied at the neck; two long rectangles draped as one; statement back belt detail; tiny rectangle for a dash of print on your wrist; wrap your clutch in vintage tones; side belt drape as worn by Victoria Beckham; twist and tie on your bag handle. Images www.pinterest.com.

A few tips:

- Scarves are perfect to add that pop of colour, wear with simple tones for ample effect.
- If you are full busted, go long and lean or neat and high around your neck.
- If you are wearing high around your neck, ideally keep your hair pulled back or sleek
- Wear one at a time; around you, your bag or wrist....not all at the same time.
- Unless you love a very neat finish, don't worry about tying with perfection, a loose knot adds creativity.
- Find an obvious space to hang your decluttered scarves. A rail inside your wardrobe door, a vintage coat stand by your dressing table, even a dedicated scarf hanger, look at Lakeland or The Holding Company but try not to overload it..



Scarves In and Out of the House

How about these for creative ideas inside and outside the home too? You may have invited friends for a Sunday bbq or a few girlfriends over for evening cocktails, and by adding a scarf or two

in your own colour scheme you will add a little bit of a playful mood for a party. Just pick one or two ideas in tonal shades and enjoy being creative.



Inside from left:

Stitch large squares together for a striking curtain; a chair with gathered and tied scarf detail; a Hermès scarf framed; a pot plant gets a botanical wrap.



Outside from left:

Tomato stake gets the paisley treatment; a long rectangular scarf becomes an al fresco table runner; wrap and tie large scarves around soft pads making changeable luxurious cushions; a lurex scarf snakes around a standard tree stem.

For more details on scarf creativity take a look at my website: www.kirstiesmillie.com.



FIND OUT MORE

I am working with clients to do their own Accessories Wardrobe Edit, via video or in person - let's declutter the small areas first before you tackle the wardrobe. Learn how to tie, wrap, drape your scarves and we can look through your jewellery gems to see what you should be wearing not hiding. And shoes, should we mention the shoe cupboard....?

Contact me by email kirstie@kirstiesmillie.com or take a look at my website, www.kirstiesmillie.com/personal-styling/.