

BN JOURNAL



HOW TO DRESS FOR DINNER

ISSUE 006

An evening, beautifully considered.



Three ways to dress for dinner. Start with the mood of the room, then choose the silhouette that lets you feel like yourself.

01 The bistro evening.

RELAXED / POLISHED / EASY

Silk blouse + tailored trousers + pointed flats.

Ivory and charcoal keep the look calm; a burgundy bag adds a small note of colour. Choose trousers that sit comfortably when you take your seat.

THE DETAIL / A tucked blouse and clean hems.



02 The dinner date.

SIMPLE / SCULPTURAL / AFTER DARK

Black midi dress + slingbacks + a small clutch.

Let the cut of the dress lead. A low heel and one piece of gold jewellery give the outfit a finished feel, without making it complicated.

THE DETAIL / One focal point is enough.



03 The rooftop table.

FLUID / TAILORED / CONTEMPORARY

Ivory suit + satin camisole + delicate sandals.

A chocolate base adds depth to light tailoring. Keep the jacket close for the terrace and choose a heel height that feels natural to walk in.

THE DETAIL / Soft contrast, considered texture.



BN styling suggestions. Adapt to the venue, weather and your own comfort. These looks are for relaxed-to-elegant dining; follow any stated formal dress code.



A little intention. A better evening.



Three combinations built around fit, texture and good shoes. The aim is to look considered and feel comfortable at the table.

01 The bistro evening.

SMART / RELAXED / COMPOSED

Navy blazer + open-collar shirt + tailored trousers.

Charcoal trousers and brown leather loafers keep the combination grounded. Let the collar sit naturally and choose a jacket that feels easy across the shoulders.

THE DETAIL / Clean shoes, a pressed shirt.



02 The understated date.

TONAL / TACTILE / MINIMAL

Fine-knit polo + tailored trousers + leather loafers.

Black on black works through texture. A fine knit and a clean trouser line give the look depth; a discreet watch completes it.

THE DETAIL / Keep the silhouette clean.



03 The elegant reservation.

TAILORED / CLASSIC / FINISHED

Dark navy suit + white shirt + Oxford shoes.

Add a muted burgundy tie when the occasion calls for it. Keep the shirt collar crisp, the trouser length clean and the accessories restrained.

THE DETAIL / Let the tailoring do the work.



BN styling suggestions. Adjust formality to the restaurant or invitation. A conventional suit does not replace black tie when that dress code is specified.



Good style, before you sit down.



A few shared principles. Begin with the setting, keep the proportions comfortable and leave the final look feeling personal.

★ 01 / THE SETTING

Read the room.

Check the booking or invitation for a dress code. A neighbourhood bistro, rooftop terrace and formal dining room can call for different levels of dress.

★ 03 / THE FOUNDATION

Consider the shoes.

Choose a pair you can walk in and keep them clean. Refined flats, loafers and low heels can feel as intentional as a more formal shoe.

★ 05 / THE FINISH

Edit the details.

Steam what needs it, tidy the collar and choose a bag that suits the evening. Let one accessory lead instead of making everything compete.

★ 02 / THE SILHOUETTE

Start with fit.

Sit down in the outfit before leaving. Check waistbands, shoulders and hemlines. Clothes that move comfortably make it easier to enjoy the evening.

★ 04 / THE PALETTE

Keep it coherent.

Build around two or three colours. Add interest with texture or one small accent: burgundy leather, a gold earring, satin against wool.

★ 06 / THE PRESENCE

Leave room for dinner.

Keep fragrance discreet and bring a suitable layer. Once you arrive, let the outfit do its quiet work so you can enjoy the food and company.

Original BN editorial styling guidance, with no product endorsements. Outfit illustrations are AI-generated concepts. Wear what suits your taste, the setting and the evening ahead.

