

4-H Buymanship Guidelines

Materials available as PDF files or from the 4-H office

- Worksheet for Purchasing a Garment/Outfit and computing the Cost/wear
- Buymanship worksheet for notebook (attached at the bottom of guidelines)
- Clothes \$\$\$ and Sense (comprehensive guide for buymanship)
- What to Wear (numerous Activity Sheets to complete)

General

The following are suggestions and helpful guidelines for the Buymanship project. They are not hard and fast rules but rather some guidelines for providing learning experiences in buymanship.

1. The purpose of the buymanship project is to teach young members to make wise selections in clothing and accessories. Learn ways to comparison shop for good value (best sale prices and discounts) and how to choose appropriate clothing for an individual's age, figure type and available funds.

2. This is a short-term project, which can be completed in four or five meetings. All members can benefit from the project. A great deal about color, lines and texture is learned, which would also help sewing, knitting, and crocheting members choose their patterns and materials. This project can easily be conducted with a large group. It would be a great prelude to other Personal Appearance Projects. Invite the parents to attend, also. They can pick up many ideas, which will assist them in selecting or help them assist their children in selecting clothing.

3. Members must include a poster or notebook to complete the Buymanship Project for judging and exhibit at the Fair.

4. Fashion Revue – members must model their own project/outfit in order to be eligible for Fashion Revue awards.

5. Any questions can be answered by contacting the Personal Appearance Superintendent,
Ricki Myers @ ricki.m.myers@gmail.com

Buymanship Guidelines

The overall purpose of the project is to learn to look for clothing quality, comfort, style and looks at the best economical price possible.

Suggested skills to learn:

- Learn about body types, coloring, features, and their relationship to clothing.
- Learn the components of fashion: design, fabric, color and detail.
- Learn about fibers, construction and care of clothing
- Learn to choose clothes that are right for their body/figure type and lifestyle.
- Learn to choose new clothes to mix/match with existing wardrobe.
- Learn to spend clothes dollars wisely.
- Learn consumer rights and responsibilities.

Suggested activities:

- Determines body types, coloring (seasonal palettes) and features
- Determine design, fabric, colors and details which best fit personality and lifestyle
- Inventory personal values and how they affect clothes you wear
- Inventory present wardrobe
- Practice shopping skills by comparative shopping trips
- Visit the different “types” of stores available for shopping
- Study and understand labels for care, etc.
- Study natural and man-made fibers, their characteristics and care
- Practice good day-to-day and laundering care
- Learn to use the cost-per-wearing formula

Requirements for completion:

- Purchase a garment or outfit from overall wardrobe plan. The outfit should be from a different category each year.
 - Everyday/casual
 - Sports
 - School or work
 - Dress up/Formal/special occasion
 - Complete the “Worksheet for Purchasing a garment/outfit and computing the Cost-per-wear”
 - Prepare the exhibit poster or notebook
 - (Optional) model in the Fashion Revue Show at the Fair
- Preparing Posters or Notebooks:
- Include pictures of garment/outfit and accessories
 - Write a full description of the garment/outfit
 - Posters or Notebooks must include the Buymanship Worksheet Form

Project Exhibits:

- Include accessories to add the “finishing touches”.
- Include all forms and worksheets, gives competence of purpose of project.
- Presentation:
 - Be able to explain to the judges your choices, combinations and uses.
 - Be able to site numerous outfits or variations you can achieve from purchased outfit.
 - Arrange an orderly display.
 - Have accessories to show combinations not being worn.
 - Have pictures to show combinations of outfit not being worn.
 - Costs: know what was spent, what was saved, and the value of what the outfit will bring to current wardrobe.
 - The exhibit needs to be neat, clean and pressed: ready for display.

Meeting Activity Suggestions:

- Hand out County Buymanship Guidelines
- Do color analysis – determine members season color palette and discuss basic principles of color
- Determine members Body Type/Silhouette and discuss what styles are best for those body types
- Discuss design principles
- Discuss fabric textures and care, use examples
- Discuss the effects of line and design on the body
- Determine the best “Look” for the member
- What Not To Wear!
- Discuss using a catalog to put together an outfit/a look
- Have members determine what outfit will be for, what occasion if any
- Discuss adding accessories
- Take members on a shopping trip and fill out the worksheet for purchasing an outfit and computing the cost/wear.
- Discuss with members that the outfit and accessories should be appropriate for age
- Schedule a modeling workshop to practice for Fashion Revue
- Schedule a meeting to write narrations for Fashion Revue at the Fair
- Discuss preparing poster and notebooks

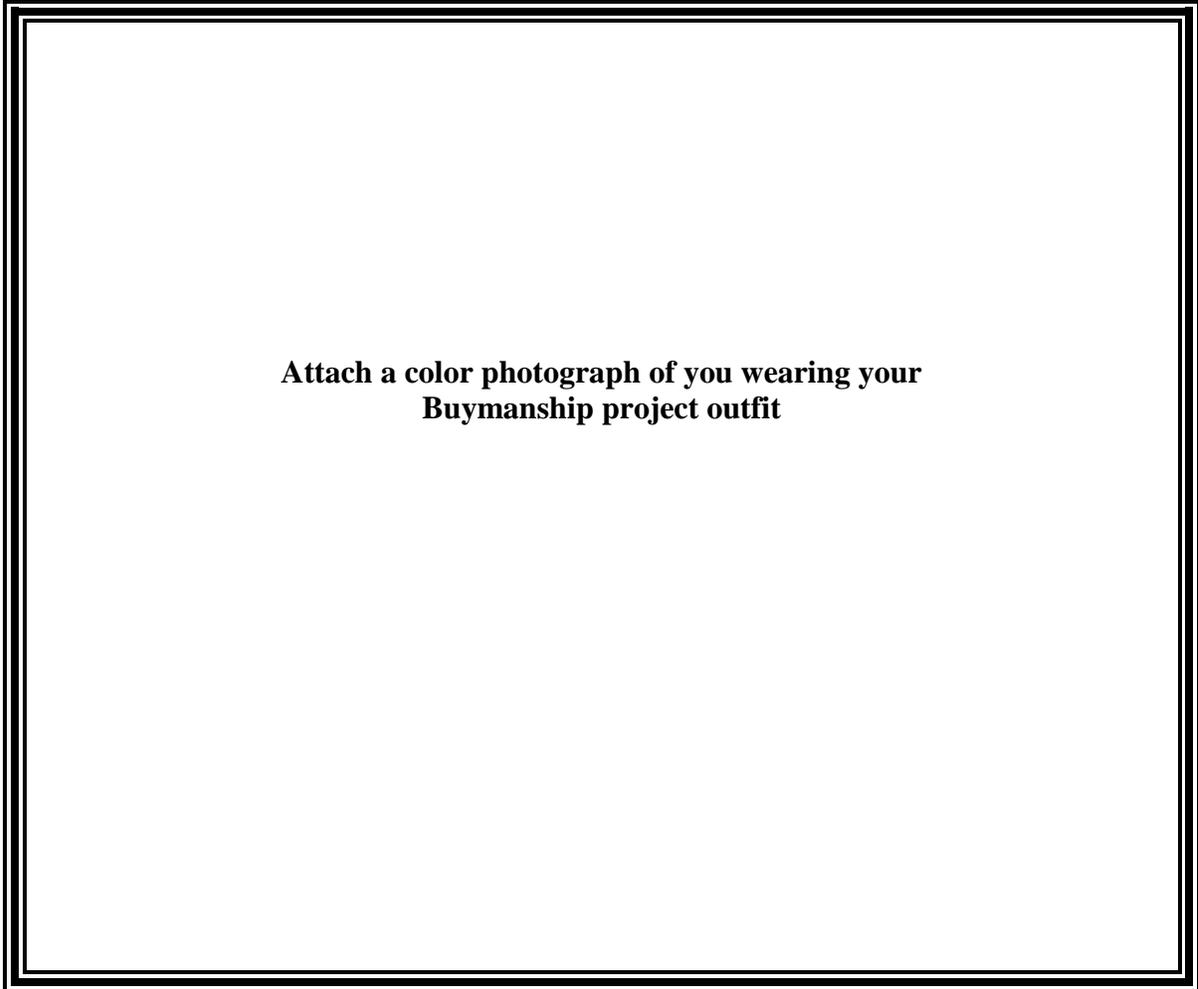
Suggested books:

- “Looking Good” by Nancy Nix-Rice
- “Flatter Your Figure” by Jan Larkey
- “What Not to Wear” by Trinny Woodall & Susannah Constantine
- “Color Me Beautiful’s Looking Your Best” by May Spillane & Christine Sherlock

Buymanship Worksheet Form

Name: _____ Age: _____

Club: _____ Year in project: _____



Part A. Purchase Report (extra sheets may be attached)

1. Describe your garment/outfit: _____

2. Describe the situation(s) or occasion(s) in which you will wear or have worn this outfit:

3. List other places or occasions in which this outfit would be appropriate and tell why you think so. If there are none, tell why: _____

4. Explain how this outfit coordinates with or extends your present wardrobe. If it does not, explain why: _____

5. Fiber content and permanent care labels are required on clothing by Federal Regulations. Write the label information below; if the labels were missing, indicate why, if possible:

Garment/Outfit:			
Fiber Contents:			
Permanent Label Care:			
Brand/Mfr's name:			
Country of origin:			

6. Make an itemized list of the cost of each item of your outfit. Include each garment, special underwear needed, accessories, and shoes. If you purchased any item at a reduced price, record the original price.

Garment and Accessories:	Cost:	Original Price:
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
<i>Total cost of outfit:</i>	\$	\$

7. When you were shopping, what were your reasons for choosing your garment? How many stores did you visit, or what kind of comparison-shopping did you do?

8. Choose two parts of your outfit and estimate the number of times you will wear each in a year. Divide the cost of each item by the number of times you expect to wear each item to find the *cost-per-wearing*. How do you feel about the price you paid for these items, considering the cost-per-wearing?

Garment:	Cost of Garment:	# of wearing Per year	Cost per wearing

9. Which garments require special care? How much extra money will it cost or how much extra time will it take per wearing to care for them?

10. Do you like your outfit as well now as when you purchased it? Why or why not?

Part B. Style and Design:

1. Considering body type, coloring, personality, etc., describe how this outfit is a good style for you: _____

2. For 4-H members ages 11 and up: Tell about and show how one of these principles of design is used in your outfit. You may use pictures from magazines or other resources; also, refer to the book *“Looking Good”*, available at a bookstore or library. This should fill one page.

Proportion - is the relationship of the size of spaces to each other. Top half/bottom half, top/middle/bottom, dainty/chunky, wide/narrow, bulky/trim are some descriptions of spaces and sizes.

Balance – is a steadiness that comes from an evenness of both sides. It can involve color, proportion, location of the emphasis, etc.

Rhythm – is created when the combination of garments keeps your eye looking from one part of the outfit to the other.

Emphasis – is the center of interest in the outfit; the one garment or part you keep noticing.

Unity – exists when all the pieces of the outfit make a *satisfying* combination; they have enough similarities to belong together or blend.

It is a good idea to start a notebook for your Buymanship Project. You can keep all of your previous worksheets together with current project information, such as receipts and style and design notes, while you work on your new project.

Worksheet for Purchasing a Garment/Outfit and Computing the Cost per Wear

Clothing item	Color	Estimated # of wears	Can the item be worn w/ other clothes	Cost
1				
2				
3				
4				
Accessories	Color	Did you have or did you need to buy? Y or N	If you have to buy, can you wear them w/ other outfits?	Cost if you had to buy
Shoes				
Jewelry				
Scarf				

Total Cost \$ _____

Return on your Investment

How much was the total cost of your outfit?		
Can you wear it only during a specific season?		
Do you still like it?		
Does it still fit you the way you want it to?		
Does it look good on you?		
Are you growing fast now – so you may grow out of it quickly?		
Will it shrink or fade after being washed so that you can't wear it again?		
Now how many times do you think you will wear the outfit?		
Finally, divide the cost of the outfit by the number of times you think you will wear it. What is the cost per wear (CPW)?		
Cost _____ divided by # of wearings _____ = _____ CPW		
Does it still deserve a place in your closet?		
Would you suggest this outfit to others?		