

Headband to a dinner date

Soraiya Fuda | The Daily Telegraph | May 06, 2011 12:00AM

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What... To Where?

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WE'VE all been there. You meet a new guy and he asks you out on a dinner date but he doesn't tell you where. All you know is that he'll pick you up at 7pm and that you have this really cute headband sitting on your dresser.

What do you do?

Well, the solution is simple - if you have our expert advice. So, you do the stressing and we'll do the dressing in this week's What to Where column.

Every Friday, three fashion experts and a woman who simply loves clothes are put to the test with a "mystery item" of clothing or an accessory - the "to What" - as well as social event the mystery will be worn - the "to Where?" The "mystery" will often be in your own wardrobe or at least affordable and easily found in most shops and the event will be one which most of us get invited to from time to time. Our three experts are Sydney stylist Annalisa Armitage, designer Sally Smith, Daily Telegraph Online Entertainment and Sydney Confidential Editor Paul Ewart and fashion lover / newsreader Michelle Taverniti.

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Stay cool, calm and collected as you absorb this week's tips:

Michelle Taverniti is a Newsreader and a fashion lover.

"Oh first dinner dates are hard, especially if they're a surprise, but I'd still opt for something dressier rather than too casual.

"As my mum always said, it's always better to be over-dressed than under-dressed.

"I'd choose a three-quarter sleeve beige lace top, paired with a high-waisted silk pant in a cobalt blue (Cue have a great pair!) and some nude-coloured heels.

"This dainty head band will complement the girlyness of the lace and will pick up the blue of the pants. Either wear your hair brushed back into a tight, low bun or out in soft, flowing waves.

"With a dainty head band like this, avoid the librarian look by wearing your hair in a ponytail. This only looks great if you've got a thick, statement head band a la Lady Gaga.

"A small nude or gold-coloured clutch and some cherry red lippie will complete the look. You'll look fashionable, classy yet sexy."

Annalisa Armitage is the Owner and Principal Stylist for My Image Consultant. Visit www.myimageconsultant.com.au for more expert advice.

"If you are wearing this head band then you must be blond, young (under 25) and wanting to give the impression that you are very sweet and innocent. Any other scenario just won't work. The contrast will be too high - and the sparkles too try hard - with dark hair and Alice bands are called this for a reason.

"As you don't know where you are going you need to be ready for anything so the rest of your outfit needs to be classic and stylish without being too dressy or too casual.

"In keeping with the headband I suggest channelling Alice with a '50s style dress in pale pink or egg shell blue and ballet flats.

"Add a short fitted cardigan with a belt over the top if it's a little chilly.

"Ok so that's look one.

"If your personality can't carry this look off try look two.

"Look two is not so innocent - camel leather mid thigh pencil skirt, brown boots - to the knee with a bit of a heel - with brown opaques, camel top in a neckline that suits you and a long - to end about the same place as the skirt - floating, quality knit worn open in a similar brown to the boots.

"Brighten the look up with a scarf with multiple colours including camel, brown, plum, purple, wine - and a purple ring.

"This outfit is not only hot but will be acceptable anywhere."

Sally Smith is the Director and Designer of her own business called Sally Smith. To find out more about Sally visit sallysmith.com.au.

"This headband is gorgeous.

"I love the pale colours in this ultra feminine piece which could really go back with so many things, and a mystery dinner destination with a new guy, well, you really need to get this right.

"So, my usual advice is to keep it simple and this is the way to go.

"A simple flowy, dress, I keep thinking Grecian, or maybe a jersey maxi with flat jewelled thongs will do the trick.

"The colour is dependant on what you look good in, though chocolate is always flattering with gold and cream accessories.

"But don't overload the look and match it back with prints.

"Jewelled thongs also in pale colours, or burnished gold will look great with this headband."

Daily Telegraph Online Entertainment and Sydney Confidential Editor Paul Ewart.

"This is the kind of hair adornment that should make you want to do the quickstep and get your flapper on! Reference the roaring '20s and opt for a simple curve-skimming shift dress.

"Avoid saccharine, overtly girly prints or anything lacy. There's a fine line between cute (avec headband) and looking like you're misguidedly trying to shave off 20 years or more by dressing like a pre-schooler.

"Quality not quantity should be your mantra here.