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Holiday Dressing

By Elizabeth Saucier

The holidays are fast approaching, which means it's time to prepare your wardrobe for all the festivities. Gone are the days of wearing Cosby sweaters and uggs; the holidays are a special time and great opportunity to dress up and stand out in style. Holiday collections by Bebe, Tommy Hilfiger, and Target have you covered with the latest staples sure to please any holiday crowd.

Bebe's Holiday Collection is definitely for the party girl out there – with flowy tops, satin dresses, and jeweled heels, you're sure to shine. Playing off of the latest trend in all things shiny, Bebe lines up an array of party dresses shimmering with sequins, satin, and gold detailing. From the little black satin bustier dress (\$159), to the sequin cowl neck dress (\$169), these dresses are sure to bedazzle partygoers. The line also includes some perfect arm candy – leather clutches and satchels – tough enough to weather the harsh fall and winter days. Make sure to pair your dress with embellished jewel heels (\$159) so your toes twinkle on the dance floor! In order to convert your party dress into a more conservative ensemble, slip on Bebe's braid trim ruffled sweater (\$119) as a cool cover-up.

If you're searching for cozy holiday sophistication, look no further than Tommy Hilfiger's new Happy Holidays Collection, available at <http://www.tommy.com>. The collection offers long cardigans and chic party dresses, allowing you to beat the cold in style. Accessories include wide belts and soft leather gloves. My favorite piece is the purse dress (\$268), which has Chanel-esque black and white lining, and is simple enough to pair with a plethora of shiny accessories. Pair the dress with black tights to keep your legs cozy, and decorate your feet with silver metallic heels for an added punch. The collection does not leave the men out in the cold – gents too can choose from cashmere sweaters, cable cardigans, and striped hats and scarves.

If your holiday spending has you limited to a budget, Target's Limited Edition Holiday Collection can help expand your polished wardrobe in time for the holidays. The mix of jeweled party dresses and bold separates provide a range of outfits sure to please anyone. The dress that is definitely a step above the rest is the elegant satin cowl neck dress in champagne for \$34.99. The separates in particular provide ample leeway to mix and match, or pair with an existing piece from your wardrobe. If you're more of a pants kind of gal, pair some dark svelte jeans with one of the collection's sheen satin tops. The 25-piece collection is available between November 11 and January 4, and all items are less than \$50.

As we ease into the festive season, don't let your fashion sense go into hibernation mode. Holiday collections emphasize adding pizzazz and shimmer to some traditional pieces, like pairing a LBD with some silver shoes. When it comes to holiday dressing, make style statements that your family and friends will remember all year round!