

THE PEAK LAPEL
presents

***A FULL
WEEK OF
OUTFITS
FOR UNDER
\$1,000***



thepeaklapel.com

INTRODUCTION

In this seven-part series we will show you how to put together an entire week's worth of outfits for *under \$1,000*. Sounds impossible?! Well, believe us, it can be done!

We'll be focusing on a more business-casual look and feel overall, as this will cover a majority of guys, in most situations. If you're working in a more corporate environment, you will likely have a collection of a few suits that you rotate through anyway. On the other hand, it's always better to be a little bit better dressed than your counterparts, so if you're used to truly casual-wear, this series will show you how to upgrade. Finally, if business-casual is your typical go-to, this series should give you lots of inspiration for outfits to put together to throw into your rotation. All while *far* from breaking the bank! We'll be covering everything from perfect office looks, to a semi-casual look, to weekend looks as well. Everything will be included, so you'll be prepared for just about anything a typical week might throw at you.

Lastly, just a few parting pointers before we get started. **One**, we will not be using any sale prices. Since price constantly fluctuates at many online retailers, in this series we'll be using the highest, typical retail price so that, no matter when you get around to shopping, you'll be able to make this whole week's worth of outfits for less than a grand. **Two**, we will not be including basics in this series. Meaning, ties, socks, undershirts, belts, and so on we will assume you already own and have in your closet or drawers. We'll be focusing on the meat and potatoes here, so to speak, not the salt and pepper. Alright! That just about does it. Now let's get to it!

MONDAY

We begin with a perfect Monday look for you to wear to the office. It's a great look to be more put together than your counterparts, while at the same time not being overly dressy. We'll explain below how to make it even more versatile. Plus, this look establishes a bunch of basics and staples of your wardrobe that will be the building blocks of future outfits.



Uniqlo Oxford Cloth Button Down — \$30: A true staple of every man's wardrobe, and Uniqlo makes one of the best values for your dollar when it comes to OCBD's. Comes in a bunch of great color options, as well as a regular and slim fit. We do, of course, suggest the slimmer option. Will go great not only with this outfit, but paired with literally anything you throw at it. An OCBD looks just as at home with shorts and boat shoes as it does with a blazer, or under a sweater with a pair of dress pants. Get a few of these in multiple colors, and your shirt collection will be about 70% complete.

Jomers Wool Dress Pants — \$64: An absolute steal at this price. Awesome patterns and fabrics, as well as the more standard plain varieties available. The catch? No inseam lengths, so assume a quick trip to your tailor to get these hemmed to your desired length. Again, wool pants like these are a staple of a man's wardrobe. Pair with a dress shirt, an OCBD like above, a sweater, or blazer (or some combination thereof), and have a killer, classy, higher end office look ready to go in no time. For starters, we suggest a navy, khaki, or grey solid fabric. Feel free to order two or three of these guys as well to build out a nice dress pants wardrobe.

Jack Erwin Charlie Penny Loafer — \$175: Some of you out there will find this pair of shoes to be quite inexpensive, while others will consider these pricey. For us, they are the perfect sweet spot. Any way you cut it, though, shoes are definitely something you will want to put some more money into. Investing in a good pair of shoes goes a really long way, and higher quality, more expensive shoes are lightyears ahead of their cheaper counterparts. And you'll notice that difference in quality almost instantly. These Jack Erwin loafers are a perfect entry into slightly higher end shoes. They are classic, versatile, and easy to wear. Yes, yes, a staple of your wardrobe. Pair these with the outfit put together here and you're in for a killer, but still somewhat laid back, look for the office. But these shoes will work just as well with chinos, shorts, or even a full suit. Available in three colors. Darker is more conservative, while lighter is more summer-y and a bit more casual.

J Crew Ludlow Unstructured Navy Blazer — (\$198): This is a really, really solid item at a great value price. Available in three colors, and while you can't go wrong with any of them, we really suggest that navy option as your first blazer. We love the unstructured option here because it can be worn a bit more casually, is super comfortable, and is lighter top layer perfect for the summer, as well as for the winter when throwing on over a sweater. The lack of structure also means less padding, which means it'll fit and drape over your body a little nicer in certain areas as well. Plus, it makes it easier to produce, which explains the super reasonable price tag here.

TOTAL: \$467
LEFT OVER: \$533

TUESDAY

We continue now with a Tuesday perfect for the office or a night out on the town. It's sleek, put-together, but also has a sense of casual to it that makes it so versatile.



Bonobos Cotton Dress Pants — \$98: Comes in a ton of fits and colors, and made with that signature Bonobos curved waistband to illuminate bunching in your rear. One of the more reasonably priced items from Bonobos, and something to build your wardrobe out with. Start with a navy, and then add from there until you have something, well, for every day at the office. Because they're cotton they will feel a bit lighter, and wear somewhat less dressy. This also means they're more versatile.

J Crew Mercantile Polo — \$29.50: This is from the Mercantile line, which is J Crew's cheaper, younger brother. Quality will be solid, but not *as* good. But we really like the Broken-in feel to this fabric, as well as all the color options — especially the “HTHR DOVE” shown above. It's classic and clean, while still being unique and eye-catching. Perfect for the summer months with cotton dress pants, and even under a casual blazer, like the one purchased for the Monday look.

Jack Erwin Charlie Penny Loafer (Already Purchased): As we discussed last time, these Jack Erwin loafers are a perfect entry into slightly higher end shoes. They are classic, versatile, and easy to wear. Pair these with the outfit put together here and you're in for a killer, but still somewhat laid back, look. But these shoes will work just as well with chinos, shorts, or even a full suit. Available in three colors. Darker is more conservative, while lighter is more summer-y and a bit more casual.

TOTAL: \$467 + \$127.50
LEFT OVER: \$405.50

WEDNESDAY

We continue now with a Wednesday look that is a slightly more casual take on the Tuesday look we last did. It's a great example of how swapping out one or two items can totally change the look and feel of an outfit. The same shoe, or shirt, or pants can stay over, but swap everything else out for a radically different look and appeal. This look can work in a more casual office environment, but, of course, can easily transition to the night, the bar, or a nice restaurant with friends. All while keeping you comfortable and sharp.



J Crew 484 Stretch Chino — \$68.00: J Crew recently dropped the price of their famous and much beloved chinos a couple of bucks. They're now an even better value. These have some nice added stretch that definitely goes a long way in adding comfort. Chinos with no stretch at all are a thing of the past, and instantly feel like there is something missing. Once you go stretch, you don't go back. These come in a wide array of colors, but we love the Deepest Navy shown above. Goes great with most any shirt, and is a killer combo with the penny loafers. If you'd like a different fit that is not quite as slim as the 484, or a different fabric style, check out [their full selection of pants](#). It's quite extensive. (The one catch? Fit consistency. J Crew, like many other big-box retailers these days, has been having some serious fit consistency issues. So, beware.)

Hugh & Crye Popover Shirt — \$55: For how awesome they are, popover shirts are surprisingly difficult to find, especially at this reasonable a price. Popover shirts are a bit polo, a bit dress shirt. A perfect hybrid between the two. Gets you bonus style points for wearing something subtly cool that most people won't even know where to buy, and can do anything both a dress shirt and a polo do. Not rocket science. It'll be a tad bit

dressier than a polo, and a tad bit less dressy than a true dress shirt. One warning: Because they don't button all the way down, they can be a bit of a tricky ordeal to get on and off. So, you might want to go a bit less slim on these guys than you usually would (especially since they are a bit less dressy of a shirt anyway). Speaking of sizing, Hugh & Crye has their own unique approach, matching to your body type as opposed to neck or sleeve measurements. You might like it a lot. Many guys do. Some don't. So, just consider that. (On that note — I always feel like Hugh & Crye is about to shut its doors, and then they pop out a couple more new shirts. What's with them?) [Available in a bunch of fabrics](#), and also the more casual band collar option.

Jack Erwin Charlie Penny Loafer (Already Purchased): These Jack Erwin loafers are a perfect entry into slightly higher end shoes. They are classic, versatile, and easy to wear. Pair these with the outfit put together here and you're in for a killer, but still somewhat laid back, look. But these shoes will work just as well with dressier pants, shorts, or even a full suit. Available in three colors. Darker is more conservative, while lighter is more summer-y and a bit more casual.

TOTAL: \$467 + \$127.50 + \$123
LEFT OVER: \$282.50

THURSDAY

This Thursday look is a great twist on an office classic. If you work in a slightly more casual office environment this is absolutely perfect. The addition of sneakers as opposed to a dressier loafer or dress shoe is an awesome switch. Draws attention in a subtle way, and shows you really know what you are doing when it comes to getting dressed in the morning. Still maintains an all-business look up top, though, so you really do get the best of both worlds. A great weekend look as well if you wouldn't wear this to the office (though it's perfect for casual Friday either way)!



Jomers Wool Dress Pants — (Already Purchased): An absolute steal at this price. Awesome patterns and fabrics, as well as the more standard plain varieties available. The catch? No inseam lengths, so assume a quick trip to your tailor to get these hemmed to your desired length. Again, wool pants like these are a staple of a man's wardrobe. Pair with a dress shirt, an OCBD like above, a sweater, or blazer (or some combination thereof), and have a killer, classy, higher end office look ready to go in no time. For starters, we suggest a navy, khaki, or grey solid fabric. Feel free to order two or three of these guys as well to build out a nice dress pants wardrobe.

H&M Premium Quality Leather Sneakers — \$60: Believe it or not, these things have gotten many extremely positive reviews. Pretty much, at this price point, you won't do better anywhere. Sleek, good-looking, and will likely hold up a year or two of solid wear. Definitely wearable with dressier pants like shown here, though if you'd rather not, they certainly work amazingly with chinos, jeans, or shorts.

J Crew Mercantile Stretch OCBD — \$27.00: A price you can't say "no" to. From their lower-end "Mercantile" line, so won't be the typical J Crew quality, but still solid for the money. Expect a small step below Uniqlo, which we featured in an earlier edition of this series. Available in a bunch more colors than Uniqlo, though, plus these have decent stretch which means they'll get some comfort bonus points. Stock up on these, or go with the pink-ish, red-ish option shown here. Real men wear pink.

TOTAL: \$467 + \$127.50 + \$123 + \$87
LEFT OVER: \$195.50

FRIDAY

This Friday look is for those that don't want to quite be so casual on a day that many others might choose to. It's still not too stuffy, though, and is a great outfit to throw on for the office, but will work just as well if you decide to have a bit of fun at night.



Bonobos Cotton Dress Pants — (Already Purchased): Comes in a ton of fits and colors, and made with that signature Bonobos curved waistband to illuminate bunching in your rear. One of the more reasonably priced items from Bonobos, and something to build your wardrobe out with. Start with a navy, and then add from there until you have something, well, for every day at the office. Because they're cotton they will feel a bit lighter, and wear somewhat less dressy. This also means they're more versatile.

Proper Cloth Custom Dark Navy Medium Gingham Dress Shirt — \$80: Pricey as far as shirts might go, but for what you are getting, this is a steal. Great fabric that will go with just about anything — every guy needs a classic gingham shirt like this in his closet. But the best bit here is, of course, that you can customize it to look exactly how you would want. Cutaway collar? Sure, no problem. Want a button down collar? Done. Plus, this will fit like a glove, and they will remake it as many times as they need to in order to get it perfect. We have had very good experiences with them in the past. [Full review here](#). Anyway, it's proof that even on a tight budget, solid MTM options do exist!

Jack Erwin Charlie Penny Loafer — (Already Purchased): As we have mentioned, these Jack Erwin loafers are a perfect entry into slightly higher end shoes. They are classic, versatile, and easy to wear. Pair these with the outfit put together here

and you're in for a killer, but still somewhat laid back, look. But these shoes will work just as well with chinos, shorts, or even a full suit. Available in three colors. Darker is more conservative, while lighter is more summer-y and a bit more casual.

TOTAL: \$467 + \$127.50 + \$123 + \$87 + \$80
LEFT OVER: \$115.50

SATURDAY

It's the weekend, so it's the perfect time to dress down a little bit. This Saturday look is great for around the house, hanging out with friends or family, helping you look cool, calm, and collected. Stay clean and dapper while also not looking stuffy. Casual, but put together. That is the idea.



Banana Republic Shorts — \$64.50: Like when it comes to polos, BR is one of the best places for guys to go for shorts. They have numerous different fits, lengths, and tons of fabric patterns. I think shorts are a great place to have some fun with patterns, especially if, like shown here, you keep the rest of the outfit toned down. As far as length, go with what makes you most comfortable, but the general rule is that it should hit just a bit above your knee. Longer is no good. Shorter is riskier (but doable). Consistently on sale.

H&M Premium Quality Leather Sneakers — (Already Purchased): Believe it or not, these things have gotten many extremely positive reviews. Pretty much, at this price point, you won't do better anywhere. Sleek, good-looking, and will likely hold up a year or two of solid wear. Definitely wearable with dressier pants like shown here, though if you'd rather not, they certainly work amazingly with chinos, jeans, or shorts.

Uniqlo Supima Cotton Tee Shirt — \$10: Hands down the best value in tee shirts for men. Nice, soft cotton that will shrink the tiniest bit in the wash to fit perfectly. A nice, slim, tapered cut, without being too tight. Plus, available in a wide array of colors. Pick up the classic white, grey, and black, and then build out from there.

TOTAL: \$467 + \$127.50 + \$123 + \$87 + \$80 + \$74.50
LEFT OVER: \$41.00

SUNDAY

Sunday is the ideal day to wear jeans. If you need to do some work in the yard, you're covered. But if you buy nice enough jeans, they can work just as well to hang out with friends, take a trip to the park, or go out to eat later on in the day. The jeans + tee + sneakers looks is a classic style move, and one you should nail down. Follow our lead here, and we're sure that you will!...



Old Navy Built-In Flex Jeans — \$40.00: A really nice darker wash, and here in the Athletic fit, perfect for guys with a bit more meat in their thighs, but still wanting a nice taper below the knee. [Also available in a whole bunch of other cuts and colors.](#) The stretch here is quite nice and will add some serious comfort and movability for whatever you might be up to on the weekends. Certainly blazer-worthy as well. Old Navy is very underrated when it comes to pieces like this, so don't knock it until you try it. Especially on sale, these things can be a real steal.

H&M Premium Quality Leather Sneakers — (Already Purchased): Believe it or not, these things have gotten many extremely positive reviews. Pretty much, at this price point, you won't do better anywhere. Sleek, good-looking, and will likely hold up a year or two of solid wear. Definitely wearable with dressier pants like shown here, though if you'd rather not, they certainly work amazingly with chinos, jeans, or shorts.

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TOTAL: \$467 + \$127.50 + \$123 + \$87 + \$80 + \$74.50 + \$40
LEFT OVER: \$1.00

And that's it! [An entire week's worth of looks](#) for *under \$1,000*. And you even have a dollar left over! (But what can you buy for one dollar nowadays???) Anyway, you thought it couldn't be done!? Well, here is living proof. Hopefully you have learned a lot, and seen how a few key pieces, at reasonable prices, can carry you through many outfits, and many different scenarios. Now, go forth, try to put together your own week of outfits, and, as always, stay classy and sharp!