

In the closet with Dawn Porter

With family heirlooms and colourful 60s clothing, the presenter has a completely unique look Words and styling by Lindsay Judge

Dawn, 33, is a television presenter, writer and comedian. She lives in London with her fiancé, Bridesmaids and *The IT Crowd* star Chris O'Dowd.

How would you describe your style? Vintage-inspired. I wear high street, too, but with vintage I love the fact that you're buying a piece of history.

Which colours and shapes suit you best? Short is good, as I have skinny legs, but I don't like anything too tight around the middle. My favourite style is 60s shift dresses.

Are you a dedicated follower of fashion or do you just wear what suits you? As I've got older, I've realised it's better to choose styles that suit your shape.

What do you wear on "fat" days? I have such fat days. I put weight on around my middle very quickly if I don't exercise, so I have a section in my wardrobe that I call my "fat day in the park" clothes.

Do you have a stylist? No, but whenever I have to be dressed for a special occasion I go to William Vintage, an amazing shop on Marylebone High Street in London. It's run by the designer William Banks-Blaney, who will look at my body shape and find the perfect dress for me.

Who is your style icon? I don't really have one – I prefer to combine ideas from lots of different people to make my own unique style. I love Gillian Anderson's look though, and of course Audrey Hepburn's.

What is your best feature?

My legs. No matter how much weight I put on, they always seem to stay thin.

Do you make your own clothes?

No, but I had some dresses made to my own design by a tailor in Asia.

What is your best beauty secret?

The right foods for your skin. I eat an avocado every day, which I truly believe makes my skin look healthier.

What is the most expensive thing in your wardrobe? A pair of Miu Miu shoes that were about £450. That's a lot more than I usually pay, but my last pair lasted me four years so I know it's worth it.

How much do you spend on clothes each month? It varies hugely but I've just had a big splurge and spent about £2,000. Most of that's on eBay – I'd never pay full price for designer clothes.

Who is designing your wedding dress? I'm getting married this year and William Vintage will be selecting my dress.

Do you clear out your wardrobe each season? I am such a hoarder. I recently moved house and forced myself to get rid of a lot, but it was a real wrench.

"With vintage I love the fact that you're buying a piece of history"



From top: Dawn wears a dress from her favourite shop, William Vintage. "I'm getting married this year and William Vintage will be selecting my wedding dress," she says

These black courts are by Miu Miu, the red heels are Louboutin and the gold pair are by Vivienne Westwood

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Primark or Prada? Both, if I can get the Prada cheap.

How long does it take you to get ready in the morning? I'm actually very quick. I can usually be out of the house in 15 minutes, as I don't wear a lot of make-up. Although recently I've started having a make-up artist for events, as it looks so much nicer in photos.

Which is your favourite high-street store? I have just discovered Vero Moda and I love their pieces.

How many pairs of shoes do you have? About 15. Until recently it was only half that, but I've just bought some more to go to events.

What is your current favourite outfit? My Canada Goose coat.

I brought it recently and will never have another coat as long as I live.

What is your favourite piece of jewellery? I love my Twitter logo necklace. It's from Alicia Jewellery – the designer creates them and sells them on Twitter.

What is the best piece of fashion advice you have ever been given? Always dress to your shape – given to me by my sister. I have only recently started to listen to her but she was so right. ☺

Dawn is leading a campaign for Andrex Washlets. To find out more, visit www.facebook.com/cleancampaign.

"Short is good, as I have skinny legs. My favourite style is 60s shift dresses"



Clockwise, from top left: "I can't live without black leggings," says Dawn. "I wear them with everything." Her top is by Ossie Clark at William Vintage, the leggings are from Sass & Bide and the red heels are Louboutin

These are the oldest items in Dawn's wardrobe. The vintage hat belonged to her mother, while she inherited the 60s dress from her aunt. "I've worn it since I was 16," she says

The presenter bought these Twitter-inspired pieces from Alicia Jewellery

Dawn wears a printed dress by Lanvin at William Vintage with brown boots from Office

