

Clothes Rationing

New clothing was scarce during World War II and anything you had you had to look after. You may have found yourself dressed in larger clothes bought for you to 'grow into', or your clothes may have been patched and mended numerous times. To be able to buy new clothes, from 1941 onwards, you had to have enough coupons as well as enough money.

Coupon rates for clothing:				
66 coupons were issued per person per year.				
Plus an extra 10 for children to allow for growing out of clothes.				
Item		Coupons		
		Adult	Child	
Men / Boys	Overcoat / Raincoat	16	7	
	Jacket	13	8	
	Trousers	8	6	
	Shorts	5	3	
	Woollen Shirt	8	6	
	Other Shirts	5	4	
	Pyjamas	8	6	
	Pants / Swimming Costume	4	2	
	Socks	3	1	
	Shoes / Boots / Wellies	7	3	
	Women / Girls	Long Coat	14	11
		Short Coat/Jacket	11	8
Dress		11	8	
Blouse		5	3	
Skirt		7	5	
Apron / Pinafore		3	2	
Underwear / Swimming Costume		3	2	
Socks / Stockings		2	1	
Nightdress		6	5	
Shoes / Boots / Wellies		5	3	
For All		Overalls / Dungarees	6	4
	Jumper / Cardigan	5	3	
	Scarf / Gloves	2	2	
	2 Handkerchiefs	1	1	

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Make an estimate of the number of clothes you own at the moment...

Item	Number	Total Coupons	Item	Number	Total Coupons
Coats			Skirts		
Jackets			Pairs of Underwear		
Trousers			Socks		
Shorts			Swimming Costumes		
Shirts / Blouses (including T-Shirts)			Shoes / Boots / Wellies		
Pyjamas			Jumpers / Cardigans		
Dresses			Scarves / Gloves		
Total Coupon Value					

Now imagine your house is hit by a bomb, as it might have been during World War II, or perhaps a fire in your neighbourhood destroys your house and everything in it. You now have only 76 (66+10 child allowance) coupons to replace your entire wardrobe. **What would you buy?**

Item	Number	Total Coupons	Draw your new wardrobe of clothes

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How would having fewer clothes change your life?

What would be the advantages of having fewer clothes?

What would be the disadvantages of having fewer clothes?

Does your family use any 'Make Do and Mend' strategies at the moment?
