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ASK ALLISON

Q. I am seriously considering going to a **wardrobe consultant**. I would love to know what to wear and where to buy it. Is it worth the money?

A. Figuring out what's in style is easy, but knowing what looks best on you is the real challenge. While personal shoppers focus more specifically on the process of buying clothes, **wardrobe** or image **consultants** offer tools that should make shopping easier for many seasons to come. The trick is finding someone you trust. I can recommend Mall of America trend expert Sara Rogers, who recently relaunched her own image consulting service (www.sararogers.com). I've seen firsthand how Rogers can raise a woman's self-image by putting her in a jacket that fits and, more important, explaining to her why it works. Rogers charges \$300 for three hours. Amy Lindquist (www.lindquistfashion.com) is another respected Twin Cities image **consultant** who tailors her services to the client's needs -- from color analysis to closet overhaul -- and budget. She charges \$125 an hour. If money is no object, hire Kevin Quinn, owner of Minneapolis accessories shop StyledLife and fashion consultation service StyledLook (www.wardrobeexperts.com). He's sure to help you look and feel fabulous, but his home visits cater to the luxe life: \$800 for a half-day; \$2,000 for the full day.

Have a shopping or style question for Allison? Visit www.twincities.com/savvyshopper. By posting your question, you give us permission to print and edit.

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