The phrasal verbs on this page all relate to wearing clothes, and to the different ways that we put them on our bodies and take them off.

1. Match the bold phrasal verbs in sentences (1–6) with their definitions (a–f).

1. Wrap up well, you guys. It’s cold outside. ..........  
2. I threw on a coat and rushed outside to see what the noise was. ..........  
3. He will need to smarten up a bit for the office. ..........  
4. He started to do up his jacket so I assumed he was leaving. ..........  
5. The trousers are a bit big, but Adam will soon grow into them. ..........  
6. They both stripped off and dived into the pool. ..........  

a. to fasten something that you are wearing  
b. to become taller or bigger so that a piece of clothing starts to fit well  
c. to put plenty of warm clothes on  
d. to remove your clothes  
e. to put a piece of clothing on quickly and carelessly  
f. to make yourself look tidier, usually by wearing better clothes
Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from exercise 1. Use the correct form of the verb.

1. I think you should .................................. a bit before going out for dinner.

2. When I bought that coat for Ava it was too big, but she .................................. it a year or so later.

3. Make sure the children .................................. before they go out into the snow.

4. I didn’t have time to get dressed properly so I just .................................. a pair of jeans.

5. It was so hot, we all .................................. and lay in the sun for a while.

6. I’m trying to teach my four-year-old son to .................................. his coat himself.
3 Replace the underlined words with these phrasal verbs. Use the correct form of the verb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>try on</th>
<th>strip down</th>
<th>zip up</th>
<th>lace up</th>
<th>pull on</th>
<th>dress up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1 Most people **put on** special, smart **clothes** to go to a wedding.

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Most people dress up to go to a wedding.
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2 He was bending over, **tying the strings on** his shoes.

```
He was bending over, tying the strings on his shoes.
```

3 I like to **put on** and find out if they **fit** trousers before I buy them.

```
I like to put on and find out if they fit trousers before I buy them.
```

4 I **put on quickly** my clothes and ran downstairs to answer the door.

```
I put on quickly my clothes and ran downstairs to answer the door.
```

5 Come on then, Maria – **use the zip to fasten** your coat and let’s go.

```
Come on then, Maria – use the zip to fasten your coat and let’s go.
```

6 The doctor asked him to **remove most of his clothes** to his underpants.

```
The doctor asked him to remove most of his clothes to his underpants.
```
Re-order the words to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.

1. too small / the dress on / I tried / but it was
   
   I tried the dress on but it was too small.

2. Naomi’s party / to go to / dressing up / are you

3. hasn’t learnt / my son / his shoes yet / to lace up

4. and jumped / to her underwear / she stripped down / in the pool

5. zip up / help me / could you / my dress

6. of bed / my jeans / I jumped out / and pulled on
Clothes – Answer key

Exercise 1

1 c
2 e
3 f
4 a
5 b
6 d

Exercise 2

1 smarten up
2 grew into
3 wrap up
4 threw on
5 stripped off
6 do up

Exercise 3

1 dress up
2 lacing up
3 try on
4 pulled on
5 zip up
6 strip down

Exercise 4

1 I tried the dress on but it was too small.
2 Are you dressing up to go to Naomi’s party?
3 My son hasn’t learnt to lace up his shoes yet.
4 She stripped down to her underwear and jumped in the pool.
5 Could you help me zip up my dress?
6 I jumped out of bed and pulled on my jeans.