

Clothes

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.*c*.....
 - 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.
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- 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

2 Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from exercise 1. Use the correct form of the verb.

- 1 I think you should *smarten up* 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.

try on strip down zip up lace up pull on dress up

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

..... *Most people dress up to go to a wedding.*

2 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.

.....

4 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.

.....

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

.....

4 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.