

# TPIS-BLUEPR-Business-Fit

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Gentlemen, Antonio here. Let's talk about business clothing fit.

The key with business clothing fit is it is expected. If your business clothing doesn't fit you, you could have a \$1,000 suit and it's going to look like a \$10 costume. Do not do this to your clothing.

This is something that's so easy. Why it's easy is because at most finer men's wear stores, you can get this adjusted right there.

What makes this a little bit difficult is some of those men's wear stores, they don't know exactly what they're looking for. There isn't in-house tailors, so there isn't an incentive for them to get it right. You should not be afraid to take this to your own tailor. However, hold their feet to the fire and make them adjust it there.

Some stores will charge you a bit for this, but you need to know what you need to look for, and that's why accompanying this business clothing fit, we're going to have infographics: how a suit should fit, how a shirt should fit. A sports jacket, odd trousers – those are going to fit about the same. The only thing I would say is you could go for a little bit looser of a fit. Usually the suit is going to be the most streamline, but I find that my suits, my sports jackets, odd trousers, those fit about the same way.

Last bit of advice, guys: buy from the best clother that you can afford. Don't try to always find the cheapest. I know a lot of you guys out there are looking to save money. I understand. However, if you go cheap and you compromise on someone that is going to try to sell you something or try to fit you into something that's not right, you're going to be fighting an uphill battle, and it's going to end up costing you more in the long run, especially if you value your time.

Let's talk about suits. This is pertaining to off-the-rack clothing on all of this. If you are looking for custom clothing, go back to the formula. Go into the companies that I'd recommend. I've got a free PDF, a little e-book I've put together: *The Seven Things that People Make Mistakes on When They Buy Custom Clothing*. That is going to be a better guide for you. A lot of this will apply in how things should fit, but understand if you're going custom, you're going bespoke, it's a whole different animal.

Jackets. Suits jackets, sports jackets, blazer jackets. First thing when you put it on, let's look at the shoulders. If it does not fit you right in the shoulders, meaning it goes out too much or it comes in way too much and it feels tight, take it off. You have the wrong size. You just don't

want to try to adjust the shoulders. That is like heart surgery when it comes to – they might as well be rebuilding the jacket for you.

Next thing is the chest. When you put it on, you don't want to see the dreaded X. That's going to mean it's too tight. You don't want to have a whole lot of excess material. Understand that a tailor, he can bring it in maybe an inch and a half, but past that, we start dealing with proportion issues. If you can put your fist in there, it's a little bit too much, but we can bring that in.

Again, it also depends on your body type. If you are a bigger man, you're going to want a little bit of excess room. It's a proportion thing. If you are a smaller man, you have a 36-inch chest, then it's okay to be a little bit closer. You're not going to be needing as much room as a man that has a 56-inch chest.

When it comes to the waist, this is the area which you can get probably adjusted the most. You can let it out a bit, depends on if it's a new jacket. It's going to have material that will be able to be let out if it can be brought in. You don't usually want to go in more than two inches. Again, past this point, pockets start to change with their positioning, and it begins to look a bit off on proportion.

Neck. All of a sudden, we're going back up here to the top. This is a pretty common fix. We can have excess material or – we have to let out some material right back here. This is a very easy fix, one that oftentimes tailors in a shop will overlook. Look in the mirror. You want to make sure that the neck is lying straight up against the shirt.

Let's go to length. This is the length of the jacket. You can get a jacket shortened. You cannot lengthen a jacket unless – in some cases, there is a little bit of excess material, but I'll tell you, that's really hard. You can shorten a jacket, though, by about an inch and a half. Past then, unless it's a larger jacket, we're going to run again into the proportion issue where we're getting too up close to the pockets.

Next is going to be the sleeve pitch. If the pitch is really off – I probably should have mentioned this at the beginning – but this may be something usually we can tell. If it doesn't fit right in the shoulders, the pitch is going to be off. This is if we see all this wrinkling here. The problem with the pitch being off is they're going to have to remove the actual sleeve and reattach it to the sleeve head. This can be an expensive fix.

If you're getting this done in-house and it's not costing you anything, it will possibly be worth getting it fit. Everything else fits right. If it doesn't, understand this could cost you over \$100 in alterations, and you may want to abandon the jacket.

However, I'm also talking about, when I mentioned sleeves, sleeve length. One of the easiest fixes, unless it's got working buttons, then you're only going to be able to adjust it maybe about three quarters of an inch. But if it doesn't have working buttons, you can usually bring up that

sleeve about an inch and a half to sometimes two inches. Be careful, though, about proportion and making sure that those sleeves aren't too wide looking.

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Trousers. Trouser rise, this is very difficult to adjust. When you put those on, if the rise in the trousers goes down way too low, it's going to make your legs look short. You want to abandon the trousers right now. You just can't adjust those.

But if the rise is good, if it fits you all right in the crotch area, then all of a sudden, let's look at the waist. You can bring in a waist about an inch to an inch and a half. I don't like to make that big of adjustment. I would rather you get it right when you buy them. If for some reason they tell you you can't interchange the trousers, talk with the manager. Find a way to get the right pair of trousers.

Then in the seat and the hips, you should have enough room that you can squat up and down. However, you don't want to be able to stick your hands in your pockets and just have tons of room unless you're wearing double-pleated trousers. In that case, those are geared more towards a higher-waist trouser, and you may want to consider going towards flat-fronts or single-pleats. But if you're really a pleat guy, then you can go that route.

Length and the cuff of the trousers. The legs are one of the easiest things to adjust. If there's too much material around the leg, you can actually get them slimmed up. The length of the trousers, you can usually have those brought up in some cases about three inches.

The only thing you want to be careful of is look at yourself in the mirror and make sure if you bring them up three inches that you're probably going to need to get those slimmed. They were built usually for a larger man.

Cuffs, no cuffs – depends on you. If you're a larger, taller man, you can go with cuffs. Shorter men, I recommend no cuff. If you do go with a cuff, make sure it's about only an inch larger. You can get proportional about an inch and a half to an inch and three quarters. Some cases, I've seen two inches on men that are well over six feet.

Shirt. Talking about the fit of the shirt. Okay, very similar, like I said, to the jacket, if it doesn't fit you in the shoulders, don't buy the shirt. If it doesn't fit you in the chest, it's too tight, do not buy the shirt.

You can get shirts brought in, but you cannot get them let out. Same thing with the waist: too tight in the waist, you're not going to lose that weight, most likely. Do not buy it. In the neck, you should be able to button it up and put about three fingers in there when you buy it, because when you wash it, you're only going to be able to get about two fingers, maybe one finger in there, after you've ran it through the dryer. But I don't recommend that you run your shirts through the dryer.

The total length of the shirt, you should be able to raise your hands up, and you still should be able to cover your midsection. I like longer shirts because I can always cut from the bottom of the shirt if I need to do a repair. I've seen people actually build new collars, new cuffs from the lower portions of their shirt and the sleeve length. You can always get it shortened. You can't get it lengthened.

Guys, that's it. I'm going to support this with infographics. See you in the next video.

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