

The 6 Biggest Lies About Plus Size Fashion

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This is a great time for plus size fashion. Right now, we have more plus size clothing options than ever before—or at least, since everyone stopped having all their clothes custom-made a century ago. But there are still a lot of misconceptions about plus size fashion, many of them holdovers from the bad old days.

So without further ado, here's our list of the 6 biggest LIES we're told (or tell ourselves?) about Plus Size fashion.



Lie #1 – “There’s something inherently wrong with wearing plus size clothes”

Plus size

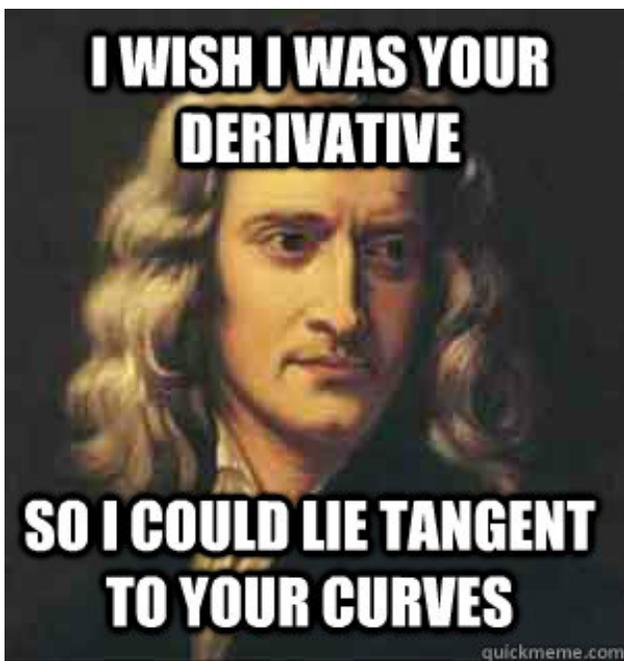
([http://abbeypost.com/blog/plus-](http://abbeypost.com/blog/plus-size/)

size/) is just a distinction that lets you know which clothes are made to fit your body (or not). If you’ve ever

browsed in a store that didn’t have a plus size section, you know what a waste of time that is. It’s a big time and energy saver to know whether there’s any point in looking for clothes in a particular place.

Yes, the lesser availability of plus size clothes is a hassle. And there are fashion designers who get faint at the thought of making their clothes larger than size 4. But that’s their problem – not yours. If certain designers and stores don’t want your money, there are plenty of others who are delighted to give you plus size fashion.

As plus size fashionista Lesly Kinzel recently pointed out in xojane (<http://www.xojane.com/issues/robyn-lawley-plus-size>), there’s no stigma about shopping in the petite or tall departments. The plus size department is the same. It is what it is. And what it is is gorgeous, sexy, curvy!



Nerd humor. Couldn't resist!

Lie #2 – “Plus Size clothes are just larger versions of ‘regular’ sized clothing”

Yes, it would be lovely if every article of women’s clothing came in every size. But that would lead to a lot of ill-fitting clothing. Because plus size bodies aren’t just larger than smaller bodies. They’re shaped differently. And so are plus size clothes. Another reason why the plus size distinction is useful.

Just consider bathing suits. Some styles come in both straight and plus sizes. But they’re not exactly the same. The smaller sizes come with a shelf bra, which offers minimal support. The plus sizes have molded cups, designed to hold an ample bosom in place for a day at the beach.

Some of the differences are less obvious, but they’re there.

Lie #3 – “The purpose of plus size clothing is to make the wearer look smaller than they are”

We’re told to wear black because it’s slimming, and to avoid stripes and loud prints because they make us look bigger than we are. But no optical illusion is going to confuse people into thinking that we’re any size other than what we are. Even shapewear is more about smoothing than about slimming.

The purpose of plus size clothing is to make us look good. And to keep us from freezing to death or getting arrested for indecent exposure. Just like smaller clothing.



Thread & Butter Jeanne Sweater.

Lie #4 – “‘Plus size’ and ‘fashion’ are contradictions”

There’s this crazy idea that there are no fashionable plus size clothes. This may have been true in the past, when it was hard to find any plus size clothes at all. And there are certainly some [questionable plus size fashion choices \(http://wtfplus.tumblr.com/post/73635040218/baroque-animal-print-apparently-submitted-by\)](http://wtfplus.tumblr.com/post/73635040218/baroque-animal-print-apparently-submitted-by) out there.

But there has always been bad fashion, plus size or not. And these days, there are loads of fashionable plus size clothes available. You may have to look for it, since every single store doesn’t carry plus sizes. But having a sense of style requires hunting for the right clothes, no matter what size you wear.



Image courtesy of Matthew David

Powell for Cabiria Style. Shop

CabiriaStyle.com

Lie #5 – “The only stylish plus size clothing is vintage-inspired”

The plus size fashion resurgence has been led by vintage-inspired clothes. And some of them look fantastic. But they're not for everyone. Heavily vintage looks come across as young, quirky and cute. They're the [manic pixie dream girl \(http://www.avclub.com/article/wild-things-16-films-featuring-manic-pixie-dream-g-2407\)](http://www.avclub.com/article/wild-things-16-films-featuring-manic-pixie-dream-g-2407) of fashion. But some of us are grown-ups and like to dress like it.

We've got [options \(http://abbeypost.com/made-to-measure/\)](http://abbeypost.com/made-to-measure/) these days. As more and more plus size fashion designers bring their clothing to the market, we're seeing stylish plus size clothes in every style imaginable.



(<http://www.store.cabiriastyle.com/product/stella-in-blue-leopard-silk-charmeuse>)

Cabiria Style is a great example of

high-fashion, luxury plus size. (Image

Courtesy of CabiriaStyle.com, with

attribution to Matthew David Powell)

Click to shop!

Lie #6 – “Plus Size clothing never fits properly”

I blame the oversized clothing of the 80s. Everything was big and boxy and I wasn't the only one who lazily kept up with that look well into the 90s. Hey, why worry about fit when you can just buy something way too big? It wasn't pretty.

Not all women are shaped the same, so not every outfit will fit or flatter everyone. And when we take the time to find clothes that are made for our shape (<http://abbeypost.com/blog/best-dress-shapes-for-plus-size/>), they actually do fit. And perfect fit is the key (<http://abbeypost.com/blog/plus-size-women-almost-always-look-fantastic/>) to looking amazing.

Shopping for clothes is so much more exhausting than it should be (http://abbeypost.com/made-to-measure/?v=2&utm_expid=68762964-1.4VOxJRduQ-2uKeDpEVKsXg.1). It's easy to fall into the temptation to stop searching for clothes that fit us just right, and just buy something good enough. But properly fitting plus size clothing is out there, and we owe it to ourselves to take the time to find it.



(<http://abbeypost.com/apblog/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/turquoise->

jersey.jpg?9eab75)

Look what a difference the
perfect fit can make!

Are there any misconceptions about plus size fashion that we missed? Talk to us in the comments!

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