

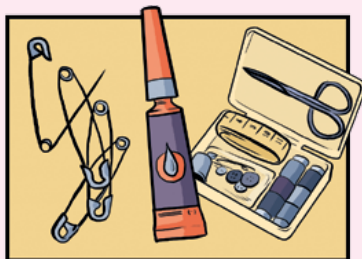
27**HOW TO SURVIVE A****WARDROBE MALFUNCTION**

Whether it's splitting your skirt on the day of a job interview, missing your mouth and tipping coffee down your front or getting your zip stuck at half mast, there is nothing more painful both socially and physically than a full-blown wardrobe mishap. Thankfully, we're here to help.



1 Do a test run. It is advisable to work out if your chosen get-up can stand the stresses of the day before you leave the house. Do a lunge, a squat, cross and un-cross your legs and test the zip. Prevention is as good as a cure, and all that.

2 Carry these three things with you to any high-stakes event: safety pins (for when a button pops off), superglue (for broken heels, split soles or tears in clothing) and that mini sewing kit you stole from a hotel last year. Avoid tit-tape at all costs.



3 Soda water removes stains better than warm or cold tap water. Never rub. Only ever blot. Also, breathe. Clothes can sense panic like dogs can.



4 If you spill water on silk, put that paper napkin *down*. Instead, use a dry piece of the same material to blot up the blotch (if you happen to have a spare bit of dry silk to hand, that is).



5 Halfway to that meeting and realised you've still got the price stickers on the bottom of your new shoes? Don't waste time trying to pick them off. Grab a permanent felt-tipped pen and colour them in so they don't show.

6 Lead pencils are like WD40 to stuck zips. Use the tip of one to loosen the teeth if your fly malfunctions. Just make sure you don't get the pencil jammed in there too. That could be *really* awkward.

