

In the closet with Adele Silva

The Emmerdale star lives for her killer heels and designer handbags

Words and styling by Henny Letailleur



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Adele, 30, is best known for playing Kelly Windsor in ITV's *Emmerdale*. She returned to the soap recently after working in Los Angeles.

How would you describe your style? I think I'm quite well put together and classic. My style staples are skinny jeans, a T-shirt and a blazer or a dress and high heels.

What colours, shapes and styles suit you best?

I do like bright colours but I tend to stick to neutrals, black, greys and more subtle shades. I always wear heels as I'm 5ft 2ins.

Who is your style icon?

I love Victoria Beckham and I also like Carla Sarkozy because she's always immaculate.

Which celebrity's wardrobe would you like to own? Victoria Beckham's – it would be amazing and so vast.

How do you dress on “fat” days? I'd wear something loose fitting in a soft silky fabric.

Is there anything about your body you dislike? I wish I was taller. I'd give anything to be stretched a bit. I'd really like to be 5ft 6ins.

How long does it take you to get ready in the morning? Not long. I'm quite organised and plan my outfits in advance.

What is your current favourite outfit? I have a striped Phillip Lim blazer that I'm wearing a lot.

What is the one item of clothing you can't live without? It's either a bag or heels. I really need some height, but I love bags, too.

How much have you spent on clothes this month? I shop quite a lot, maybe once a week. I look after my designer things, though, and get a lot of wear out of them, but I do buy high street, too. I like Forever 21.

What is the oldest item in your wardrobe? I have a Chanel bag that I bought years ago. It's a real classic.

Have you ever made a fashion faux pas? I've been to an event where someone was wearing the same dress as me. Typically, she was a supermodel so I sat down for most of the evening.

Do you clear out your wardrobe every season? Not every season, but I do have big clear-outs where I give stuff to friends or charity.

Do you own more day wear than evening wear? I think I have a good balance. I've got a lot of dresses that I bought for award ceremonies and events. You can only really wear them once, so I tend to recycle them at friends' parties or weddings.

Do you have a favourite shop/designer? There's a little shop in Cobham, Surrey, called CSee that's a treasure trove and that's one of my favourites. I also love Harrods because everything is under one roof. As far as designers go, Jasmine di Milo has a great range and her pieces are really flattering.

Would you say your wardrobe is more high street or designer? It's a good mix of both.

What is the most expensive item in your wardrobe? Probably my Chanel bag, which cost quite a lot.

How many pairs of shoes do you own? It must be more than 50 pairs. They're mainly heels.

Do you wear silver or gold jewellery? Both, but I do wear more gold than silver.

How much of your wardrobe is black? About a third.

Do you wear diamonds? I always wear diamond studs.

Have you ever had anything made to measure? I've had dresses made for award ceremonies.

How many handbags do you own? About 40. I love bags.

What is the best fashion advice you've ever been given? Keep it simple, classic and be yourself.

If your house was burning down what item would you save? My bags. ☺



Facing page: Adele wears a floaty silk maxi dress by Gypsy. "I bought this in LA. I just love the colours," she says

This page, clockwise, from top left: Adele is a fan of animal-print accessories. Her wedges are by Louboutin, while the scarf is from Two Whistles

Adele models a lace dress by Temperley which she bought at Cricket in Liverpool

The actress mostly wears gold jewellery. She bought this star necklace from Topshop, while she found the long gold chain at a market in Argentina

Petite Adele couldn't survive without her heels. "I wish I was taller," she says. "I'd give anything to be stretched a bit. I'd really like to be 5ft 6ins". These red and black killer heels are both by Yves Saint Laurent

Adele's sequin jacket is from Asos. "It's a bit of a statement piece. I usually wear it with a long vest and leggings," she says

Centre: Adele's designer handbags are so precious she wouldn't hesitate to save them from a burning house. "I'm obsessed with Balenciaga bags, she admits. "I've got seven in total, one clutch and different coloured ones. I'm such a bag person. I will have these for ever"