

# In the closet with Jacqueline Jossa

**“I’m not into designer clothes. You can get a great designer look on the high street”**

The EastEnders star has a high turnover of clothes – but she won’t blow the budget

Words and styling by Tricia Welch

Jacqueline, 18, plays Lauren Branning in EastEnders. She won the role while still at drama school and it is her first job. She lives with her family in Kent.

**How would you describe your style?**

Mix and match. One day I’ll wear jeans and Converse trainers and the next I’ll dress up in a skirt with boots.

**What colours, shapes and styles suit you best?** I love black and grey and autumn colours, but I also like florals and loose-fitting tops with jeans, shorts or floaty skirts.

**Who is your style icon?** The Disney Channel actress Demi Lovato. She does the rock chick look really well.

**Which celebrity’s wardrobe would you most like to own?** Pixie Lott’s. She’s really good at mixing the rocky look with more feminine stuff.

**How do you dress on “fat” days?** Mine are more sloth days when I can’t be bothered to get up! I’ll just pull on something comfortable and not worry about making an effort.

**How long does it take you to get ready in the morning?** Usually about half an hour. I just apply a bit of lipstick and mascara, but if I know I’m going to see someone nice, I’ll take an extra 10 minutes.

**Do you have a stylist?** No, I like to create my own style.

**What is your current favourite outfit?** My new Topshop jacket, green shorts, woolly tights and boots.

**Is there an “old favourite” that you turn to in a wardrobe crisis?** A black or grey blazer with a body-con

skirt over leggings and flat lace-up boots. It’s smart but comfortable.

**What is the oldest item in your wardrobe?** A massive woolly grandpa-style jumper from a charity shop.

**What is the one item of clothing you couldn’t live without?** My Converse trainers.

**Do you clear out your wardrobe each season?** Yes, I’m pretty ruthless at getting rid of stuff. If I haven’t worn it for a few months, out it goes.

**Have you ever made a fashion faux pas?** I used to live in tracksuits but I don’t any more – I make more of an effort. Does that count?

**What is your most successful party outfit?** A little black dress – you can’t go wrong, can you? My favourite is a 60s-style babydoll dress from Warehouse, which I wear with really high heels.

**How much of your wardrobe is black?** About 50 per cent. I virtually always wear some black.

**Have you ever had anything made to measure?** No, apart from a bridesmaid dress.

**Do you own anything vintage?** Only my grandpa jumper, although I’d like to.

**Who is your favourite designer?** I’m not into designer clothes. You can get a great designer look on the high street without spending a fortune.

**What is your favourite high-street shop?** Urban Outfitters – I could live there.



From top: Jacqueline models her current must-have piece – a tweed jacket from Topshop. “I wear it casually for every day and dress it up for evenings,” she says. Here she’s teamed it with a red T-shirt and bottle-green shorts

“One day I’ll wear jeans and Converse trainers and the next I’ll dress up in a skirt with boots,” says Jacqueline, who bought her trainers on eBay. The floral-print shoulder bag is from Urban Outfitters, while the friendship bracelets were a gift



**What is the most expensive item in your wardrobe?** For my end-of-year show at performing arts school, I spent £150 on a long black Audrey Hepburn-style dress in satin.

**What is your best fashion bargain?** Two Topshop tops for a fiver. They originally cost £20 each. **Is your underwear frilly or sporty, matching or mismatched?** I'd describe it as casual.

**Do you wear a bikini or a swimsuit?** A bikini.

**How many handbags do you own?** Not many. I have a floral carpet bag for every day, a wicker basket and some chintzy ones for evening.

**Do you have more shoes than clothes?** No. I have about half a dozen pairs of boots, plus Converse

trainers and a couple of pairs of heels. That's it.

**Do you wear silver or gold jewellery?** Both, but I'm much more into costume jewellery. I've got some boho styles that are a bit unusual.

**How much have you spent on clothes this month?** About £200.

**What is your fashion must-have for this season?** My Topshop tweed jacket – it's really versatile.

**If your house was burning down, what item would you save from your wardrobe?** I would grab a jumper, slip on my Converse trainers and run! 📞

EastEnders is on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays on BBC1.



Clockwise, from top left: Jacqueline wears her most successful party outfit – a babydoll-style LBD from Warehouse

A selection of the actress's hair bands and bows from Topshop, Urban Outfitters and River Island with a floral clutch also by River Island



Jacqueline likes elegant, feminine frocks for parties. The pink chiffon beaded dress is by Topshop, while the long-sleeved lace frock is from Warehouse. Her watch necklace is by Urban Outfitters and the red ribbon and metal necklace is from River Island

When she's not in shorts or skinny jeans, Jacqueline likes to wear floaty skirts and dresses with high heels, flat pumps or boots. This skirt and two-tone shoes are by Urban Outfitters



The actress is a self-confessed hat girl. These trilbies are by Urban Outfitters and Topshop, where she also bought the belt

Jacqueline loves costume jewellery. She purchased these colourful bangles from high-street and charity shops

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