| ITEM | \$ |
|-------|----|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |
| 10 | |
| TOTAL | |

5 QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOU BUY SOMETHING

- 1 | Does this fit my personal style? Start by defining your style and distilling it into a few words. Do the words you chose apply perfectly to this piece? If yes, that's a good sign. If not, then it's probably just an impulse and not something you'll wear a lot. I've found this the most effective, on-the-fly, way to assess whether or not something will work for me.
- **2 | Can I afford it?** Like, really, is it within my budget or am I stretching my finances? This one can be a downer but it's so critical to feel good about a new purchase. Too many times I've gone over budget and felt pangs of buyer's remorse.
- **3** | **Do I have anything else like this?** If no, that's a good start. If yes, is it something you wear more than twice a week and could use an alternate of? I'm all for buying multiples of something you wear all the time, whether it's a different colour option or a new fabric for a warmer season, but make sure you're not drawn to

something just because it's like a piece you already have. Each item in your closet should play a relatively unique role.

- **4 | Can I think of three outfits I'd wear this with?** If yes, great! As long as the outfits consist of things you currently own. If no, then it's probably a pass unless it's for a very special occasion.
- **5 | Can I take care of this?** Too many times I've ignored the 'Dry Clean Only' care tags and figured, no big deal, to find after a couple wears (or less), it's in the bottom of a bag waiting to be dropped off to the dry cleaner, where it will likely remain for at least a week or two. With the exception of wool or cashmere sweaters I try to stick to things I can launder myself.

If you're 5 for 5 then I'd say go for it! If you're under 5 I'd say hold out for something better.

HAPPY SHOPPING!