


Essential pocket square guide

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Pocket squares are an important accessory because when I talk about the small details that set the average guy apart from a well-dressed gentleman, this is exactly the type of accessory I mean. It's easy to forget an item that adds a little more polish to the outfit and really sets you apart from the average guy. If you're relatively new pocket squares, the worst thing you can do is go overboard with them. I see it all the time. This is a very fine line between sharp and sticky. Cool and slim wins out loud and bright every time. So please don't complicate pocket squares any more than you need to. Before we get into the pocket squares you should own, let me answer some of the general questions I get asked about pocket squares. When wearing pocket squares You wear a jacket, either with a full suit or jacket or sports coat. You can also wear them with unlined/unstructured jackets as I discussed in my summer e-book basics. But, never, and I mean never, you have to wear a pocket square with a coat or top coat. Do I always have to wear one with all my suits and jackets? No, but I'd suggest wearing it more often than not. For me, the more casual the outfit, the less necessary it becomes. But even so, the quickest way to add a little extra polish outfit with a pocket square. How do I match the pocket area with my outfit? First - if you match your pocket square tie exactly - stop immediately. It's a rookie bug I see a lot of guys making and it looks bad 100% of the time. I just think about all those silk tie and pocket square sets in prom photos... Shudder. Matching a pocket square for your outfit is pretty straight forward. The safest thing you can do is that looks great 100% of the time to fit the pocket square of your shirt. You'll never go wrong there - as long as you don't wear some nasty color dress shirts like red or orange. Even then, it won't look ... Terrible. So do it if you're going to tie-less or wear a black tie. A solid tie that is not black/Make is sure that your pocket is a square of a similar color (not exactly) to the color of your tie. Or, if you use a white square pocket with colored tipping, make sure to tip a similar shade of the same color. Patterned tie/Find color in a tie and have a pocket square, either a rollover, pattern, or a solid pocket square color have a similar color in it. It doesn't have to fit perfectly, but it should have a similar shade of color as your tie. So if you wear a blue tie, have a blue tint in your pocket area. Simple tie/Match your pocket square to your shirt It doesn't have to be perfectly matched, just a similar shade of the same color. This will keep a nice contrast between the items you wear. Go Tie-less/Again, match your yours square to your shirt color. So if you are wearing a blue suit and white shirt then you can wear a white square pocket. What kind of material should my pocket squares be? This one is simple: cotton. Cotton works in 100% of situations, regardless of outfit, color, etc. and goes well with your basic silk ties. So don't waste your time or complicate things further, even when considering other materials. I sometimes use wool or linen pockets squares with clients or on shoots, but they have very specific cases of use and cotton pocket squares will still work in all these situations, so stick to cotton and you'll be just fine. For silk pocket squares, I think I can count on one hand how many times I have used them during my career. What should be the colors and patterns on my pocket square? I always default to classic and timeless colors and patterns so stick to these and they will go with any suit or jacket you will own: Plain white (if you have 1 color, it's color)/White with gray or navy tipping Navy or grey gingham patterns/Any other types of patterns or colors and you're venturing into an area that is out of the scope of this series and where things can go wrong very quickly if you don't know what you're doing -- and trust me, most guys don't know what they're doing in this department, even the so-called experts. I'll do a whole other video or series about templates and materials later, but this is the next level of stuff and not suitable for basic accessories series because these are items that should work with my men's wardrobe essentials, and also have to work for every guy, regardless of his age or body type. How to fold your square/Check pocket out of my article and video about the 3 best ways to fold a pocket square. The best pocket squares/Honestly, it's hard to go wrong with any pocket squares, as long as they cotton and you're stuck in plain white, white with colored tipping and navy or grey gingham models. So if you have a preferred place to get pocket squares go ahead and use them. I get slapped up by a gazillion tie and pocket square company all day long, but for all my pocket square needs - and they don't pay me to say it - I use TheTieBar.com.I've been their customer because they were a bit of a company that didn't know who I was and what I did for a living and and they kept impressing me every time I ordered from them. Suffice it to say that they are amazing. And believe me, I use them a lot. Tie Bar Solid White Cotton Pocket Square Tie Bar Solid Pocket Square with Navy Border Tie Bar Cotton Pocket Square Tie Bar Solid Pocket Square with dark charcoal border tie Bar Roman Gingham WARM-Sea Pocket Square Tie Square Tie Charcoal Pocket Square Pocket Square Inspiration Square All pocket square photos inspired by my friend Rainier over TheDressedChest.com, my images below pale compared to his, so go check it out as well. It's evening. You're wearing this perfect sports jacket, and you're ready to rock that date. Or cigars and drinks with your buddies. Chinos is perfect. The shirt is crispy, and is made of two cotton cotton. And the sports jacket looks good. It's damn good. You're ready to walk out that door. Except you know that there are finer details missing - something that can really elevate your gaze. You step back into your room, open your chest drawers where some of your accessories are elegantly lined, and look at your massive pocket square collection. Which one do you choose? Yes, pocket is a square puzzle. This seems to haunt us all sartorialists at one time or another. With an ever-growing assortment of exquisite pocket squares on the market, it's no surprise that we are often left confused about which ones to wear. And sometimes, when something is confusing, it's best to simplify. To know that we have three to five go to pieces that will serve us throughout the year, through seasons and across the spectrum of functions. So whether we're dressing a dapper for work, a cocktail reception, a date night or an evening with friends, we know that our go-to set of pocket squares will save the day when the push comes to poke. With what's said, here's our list of five basic pocket squares that everyone should own. 1. Blue Paisley Pocket Square Given that we often wear pocket squares with ties, choosing pocket square patterns can often seem problematic. With connections ranging from solids to stripes, abstracts to polka dots, and plaid animal prints, which pocket is the square pattern we choose? Paisley, at its great interval, acts as the perfect addition to almost any tie pattern (except Paisley, of course). This greater distance contrasts perfectly with tightly held patterns such as stripes, abstracts, animal prints and polka dots, and, of course, solids! And as we all know, blue is a very versatile color, well paired with navy, pink, burgundy, purple, lilac and gray silk ties! So when in doubt, always prefer to have a blue paisley pocket square ready to go! In addition, the blue square of Paisley's pocket, provided it's not too loud, will serve you well through a range of features and settings, whether it's dressing up for work, a cocktail party with friends or a date night. Courtesy www.johncraigclothier.com 2. Polka Dot Pocket Square Nothing balances a dapper suit and tie, or a sports jacket and checkered shirt combination like a polka dot pocket square. Square. The polka dot interval is quite widely spaced apart, it is a great addition to the hard, stripes, abstract or paisley silk ties. Burgundy provides a sense of elegance and scope that will help take your style of play to the next level. Do you want to impress with your daily work, your next business meeting or an important presentation? The burgundy polka dot pocket square will provide you with the perfect level of balance for the rest of your outfit. The burgundy polka dot square also serves as an excellent touch on a date night or evening with friends! Don't wear a tie in the evenings? Pair a pocket square with a blue or grey sports jacket and a solid, striped or micro checkered white, light blue, light pink or grey shirt. Courtesy www.lookastic.com 3. Grey Foulard Pocket Square Looking for a neutral colored pocket square that will complement any of your ensembles? Cue a gray foulard. Whether you wear a blue, burgundy, pink, purple or lilac silk tie, a grey square pocket will complement your outfit. A fallard pocket square (repetitive pattern) will work best with a hard, striped or polka dot tie. In addition, you can strut this pocket square with a blue jacket and a solid, striped or micro checkered white or light pink shirt. Whether you're dressing for work, an important meeting, presentation or social night, a gray square pocket foulard will provide you with a level of exquisite elegance that will have your peers gawking. Courtesy www.thedarkknot.com 4. The Flower Pocket Square is also known as a festive square pocket, a floral square pocket will allow you to make a statement in those cases that are most important - such as your wedding, best friends wedding or dapper daytime events such as the Kentucky Derby. Bucking more traditional trends from the four other pocket squares on this list, the floral pocket area will really make you stand out. With a wide interval pattern, pair it with any costume outfit, or jacket and shirt option, and you're good to go! The Lake Dark Knot George Linen Blue/White/Navy Pocket Square fills this ensemble with significant pop and is perfect for events such as your best friend's wedding or The Kentucky Derby! 5. White linen pocket area Last, and most importantly, is a crisp white square linen pocket. A definite staple in the wardrobe of any dapper person, the white square pocket linen offers you several defining characteristics - a simple white color that complements almost any ensemble (with our no tie), a linen texture that provides textural changes for the rest of your ensemble, and an elegant look that stands for even the most formal occasions, including a black tie event. White flax will lift any look, whether it's a jacket, suit or tuxedo. When paired with a white shirt, he returns the white shirt, which makes elegant color repetition. While the white silk square pocket is best reserved strictly for a black tie (and even that's debatable given its excess sheen), the white square of flax is much more versatile. The square of the linen pocket also has a better shape, given the rigidity of the fabric. For this reason, a white square pocket linen is best worn with a presidential/square crease, even if it can be worn with a carefree puff fold. The exquisite ensemble, featuring a linen tuxedo Dark Knot White W/Burgundy Hand rolled contrasting edge of Pocket Square. The white linen pocket area will complement almost any ensemble and fill it with a sense of exquisite elegance. And it's a wrap for that! I hope you enjoyed reading this as much as I wrote it! Please feel free to see the exquisite assortment of dark knot handmade lingerie and silk pocket squares. Squares.

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