



BROOKLYN_BORN

[Change Banner Image](#)**154,986**
SparkPoints

Info



Photos



Feed



Blogs



Awards

More



Where I will/will not economize

Friday, November 23, 2012

I used to tell my children not to spend their money on things that weren't really important to them and then they would have enough to buy the stuff they really cared about.

I've been called "Frugal Fannie" (Frugal Fannie's was a discount clothing store). I've been frugal throughout my life, not cheap, but thrifty.

Obviously, the one place I WILL economize is in clothing for myself. Fortunately, I've never worried about having the latest fashions. Comfort, quality and price top my list, plus having something suitable for every occasion. Interchangeable parts are important too. So, the first place I seek out in any store is the clearance rack. I can usually find something there that suits me just fine and often complements something in my closet. I'm a regular at Goodwill also.

My grocery list always begins with whatever is on "special" skipping the junk food, which always seems to be front and center.

Shoes are a different matter.

I watched my mother and her sisters hobble themselves in fashion shoes. It may be genetics, but I know if I force my feet into what I see in magazines, my future will be orthopedic or worse – a cane or a walker. I wear custom orthotics and there are brands of shoes into which I can fit them comfortably. I pay a premium for these, but I'm worth it. (Darn Crocs – They bought the company that made my sandals and promptly discontinued them – Grr!)

Running shoes – I choose whatever keeps me moving forward pain/ache free. I truly don't care what the cost is although I've never paid over \$100 (I'm not fast enough to need "racing flats"). It's nice if I can find them on sale, but not necessary. When I need them, I buy them. My favorites even come in black so I can wear those day to day with the same level of comfort as during workouts.

The source is important to me too.

I patronize a local running store, even though I can save some money online. What happened to my thriftiness? Some things just matter more to me. I want this local business with its helpful, knowledgeable employees to stay in business. I want the support they provide the community, encouraging runners/walkers, sponsoring running groups and races and providing employment to the area. Their "discount" this week is for anyone bringing at least 3 items of food for the needy. I bought a new pair of tights. Again, it's just my personal choice to support this civic minded employer.

"Eat This not That" is a well known advice book.

We each decide to "Buy This not That."

Organic or not?

Free range or not?

From local farmers/coops/retailers or large businesses with economy of scale?

These are just a few of the choices with which we're confronted daily. Our decisions are our own as we

[Add a Blog Entry](#)

See Today's Featured Member Blog Posts

More Blogs by BROOKLYN_BORN

[Now I can add one more event to my "Anniversary Dates" to forget - 6/7/2021](#)

[Avoiding Our Wedding Anniversary - 6/4/2021](#)

[Multitasking for Safety – Plus Remembrance and Reflection - 6/1/2021](#)

[Taps Across America – The National Moment of Remembrance - Monday 5/31/21 3PM - 5/30/2021](#)

[View All >](#)

try to maintain a healthy lifestyle and balance it with reality – our time and resources. We each decide for ourselves.

[Edit Blog Entry](#) | [Delete Blog Entry](#)

Share This Post With Others

[Report Inappropriate Blog](#)

Member Comments About This Blog Post



SWEDE_SU

I'm with you - shoes are important, and so are good running stores!

3124 days ago



CELIAMINER

I like clothes with simple lines that last a long time, so I don't have a problem spending more for a classic blazer or two or durable sweaters. I even had my renewal passport photo taken in the same sweater and turtleneck 10 years after the previous one. As for shoes, I got measured by a pro who told me I was wearing the wrong size and assessed the shape of my foot. He recommended New Balance shoes built on an SL-2 last, and I've never had a blister since.

3124 days ago



CHANGINGHORSES

Looks like many of us in the same boat. I'd say that I'm in good company. Some things are definitely worth spending a little more on and some things are just not that important. Some time my family "picks on me" because of my frugal ways, they just did it today, but I spend it where I feel it is worth the value to me. (And besides that, I should ask them "When is the last time that I asked to borrow any money from any of you?" They have to borrow money all the time)

Running shoes and hiking boots are worth the price.

3124 days ago



MISCHAKEO

I am the same way with clothes..I head for the clearance rack and then try 2nd hand stores..but like you I spend money on my workout shoes! There is a huge difference in shoe quality.

Nice blog.

3124 days ago



WILSONWR

I'm very frugal also as far as clothing, but I don't skip on shoes. I've had too many problems in the past because I got a "great deal." I also make sure I buy quality tools. I've had one "expensive" Stihl chain saw that I've used regularly for the past 15 years. Before that, I had about 5-6 cheap ones in that same period. Needless to say, the cost of the Stihl was much less than all the others put together (and I don't have constant problems with it either!).

3125 days ago



BOILHAM

On some things "good enough is good enough".

I always buy last years electronics, good enough and about half to 3/4 the price of the latest gadgets. After all, they were the "best available" last year.

Agree with the rest of your blog, and do likewise myself.

3125 days ago



SUZYMOBILE

Me too. Can't remember the last time I bought myself something new, other than my sneakers.

I've been promising myself a trip to Goodwill as a treat for reaching goal. Hmmm. Wonder if they're open on Black Friday?

The only thing I've ever disagreed with you on is here, though. I'm sorry they ate your favorite sandal company, but I love Crocs. I've got a pair of Crocs sandals that I've been wearing going on 5 years now!

3125 days ago



COCK-ROBIN

Very good choices!

3125 days ago



FITFOODIE806

Yeah for local running stores!!! Your house sounds like the house I grew up in. My mom used





to tell me to divide the cost by how many times I'd wear it. \$100 running shoes = worth it. \$15 shirt on clearance that ill only wear twice a year = not worth it!
3125 days ago



KKKAREN

Good for you! I'm frugal too!
3125 days ago



Add Your Comment to the Blog Post

Leave encouragement, a question, or anything else relevant to this post. All blog comments must abide by SparkPeople's [Community Guidelines](#).

Subscribe to this blog

ADD AN EMOTICON

SPELL CHECK

Post Comment

Disclaimer: Weight loss results will vary from person to person. No individual result should be seen as a typical result of following the SparkPeople program.