



## Karen Ng

Power Stylist, Glitz

**STARTING OUT** I ran a floral and personal gift business nine years ago in Hong Kong, serving the needs of high society. As I was often invited to their events, I always made an effort to be immaculately dressed and was often approached for recommendations. Soon, it occurred to me that I could turn it into a business. So I went to London for a nine-month course to learn the art of styling, then returned to Hong Kong. Upon my mother's persuasion, I returned to Singapore after 13 years away. There were no personal styling services in Singapore that were glamorous – combining both fashion and styling – so I started Glitz.

**I LOVE MY JOB** I like the fact I am able to change a person's life and bring more style to their look. And I get to shop every day! My clients entrust me with a budget and I use it to shop for things that will enhance their looks. Plus, I get to keep abreast of fashion trends.

**CHALLENGES** Some clients have fixed ideas in their head about how they want to look. Yet once transformed, they can't get used to their new look. Seeing the drastic transformation can give them confidence, but it may take some time for them to get used to it.

**THE TRUTH ABOUT STYLE** Looking good can bring success. You stand out in a crowd and when opportunity comes, you get the chance to rise above others. It makes a huge difference. Looking presentable can take you further in life. I receive many compliments and I think I stand out because I bother to dress up and I am very serious about it.

**DOS AND DON'TS** Don't overdo things. Strike a balance. Style is about yourself, but don't stick to one particular mould. For example, you can have a classic look but there are variations you can experiment with – there's classic edgy, classic chic and so on. I hope to see Singaporeans advance in terms of their style and not be so fearful of experimenting. Get a stylist if you're not sure where to start. It's money well spent.


**IT SURPRISES ME** There are some Singaporeans who think they know everything, get complacent and ignore advice. Some people can be too arrogant to accept others' opinions. But when others look good, they criticise.

**PRE-PARTY PREP** I usually have lots of props such as accessories readily available so I can get an outfit together pretty quickly for an event.

**FAVE BRANDS** I like to experiment but I do have favourites such as Givenchy, Balmain, Comme des Garçons, Ann Demeulemeester, Martin Margiela.

**MY TIPS** Exercise is fundamental in women's lives. Do some cardio at least. My advice to women who already have excess on their bodies is to seek cosmetic help to reshape their figures and then adopt a good exercise regime to maintain it and to keep the metabolism going. **■**





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