A long cardigan over a simple knit dress

Length and silhouette comparison sheet • Free, no signup or purchase.

Compare a long cardigan over a simple knit dress you already own. Measure both hem lengths, check how the dress lies under the open cardigan, and choose shoes and outerwear for the actual weather. The free length and silhouette comparison sheet records the measurements and the version you prefer.

You need

- A knit dress you can walk and sit in
- A long or hip-length cardigan you own or are considering
- Shoes and outerwear for the day
- A flexible measuring tape and a full-length mirror
- The free length and silhouette comparison sheet (PDF) printed on US Letter paper, and a pen

1 Measure both hems

Put on the dress and the cardigan, open. Measure from the top of your shoulder to the dress hem and to the cardigan hem, and record both. The difference shows how much of the dress shows below the cardigan.

2 Check the layers while wearing them

Look in a full-length mirror from the front and the side. Note where the cardigan ends: at the hip, the thigh or the knee. Check that the dress lies smooth under the cardigan and does not cling to it.

3 Sit and walk

Sit down and walk a few steps. Check that the dress does not ride up under the cardigan and that the cardigan does not pull at the shoulders.

4 Finish for the weather

Choose shoes and outerwear for the actual weather and walking distance. Try the outerwear over the cardigan and note whether the sleeves bunch.

Tips

- Try the same proportions with a cardigan you already own before buying one; your measurements show the length you need.
- If you are buying, compare the length in the seller's size chart with your shoulder-to-hem measurement from step 1.

Important

Optional Amazon links are affiliate links. Check the current product dimensions, color, fabric and return terms before buying. Other pictured pieces are separate; the illustration is an AI concept.

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1. Lengths (from the top of the shoulder)

Measurement	Inches / cm
Dress hem	
Cardigan hem	
Difference (dress showing below)	

2. How it looks

Check	Notes
Cardigan ends at (hip / thigh / knee)	
Dress smooth under the cardigan?	

3. Movement (tick when it passes)

- ☐ Seated: dress stays in place
- ☐ Walking: no pulling at the shoulders
- ☐ Outerwear over the cardigan: no sleeve bunching

4. Decision

Shoes and outerwear _____

One change for next time _____

Extra writing space