

## Clothing as Armor: Essential Gear for Street Photography

Clothing is more than just fabric; it's *armor* that equips us for whatever the day throws at us. When I walk out in my gear, it's not just about comfort—it's about feeling ready, adaptable, and prepared for action. Each piece I choose has a purpose, especially when it comes to shooting on the streets, where every detail matters. Here's my go-to setup for staying equipped, comfortable, and ready for anything.

### Why I Choose Lululemon: Function and Form

When it comes to clothes, **Lululemon has been my brand of choice** since I first got into weightlifting at around 18 or 19. The fit, durability, and functionality make it perfect for active city life. The clothes feel like a second skin—they hug the body just right, wrapping around your muscles and giving that sense of *confidence and readiness*. Here's my go-to kit:

- **Drysense Short Sleeve Shirt (M):** A perfect fit with a slightly longer length, this shirt stays dry and fits like it was made for me. The simple, monotone colors—especially in shades of brown—give a sleek, elegant look without any loud branding.
- **License to Train Linerless Shorts (M):** These shorts are a game changer, with secure zipper pockets perfect for keeping essentials like my Ricoh or GoPro safe. I can hop on my bike or roam the streets without worrying about losing my gear.

While I usually go with *black or neutral tones* for that dominant, versatile look, I've recently embraced **Lululemon's brighter colors** as a kind of “anti-emo” aesthetic. It's a style twist that brings a little more life to the streets.

## The Best Shoes for Street Photography: Vibram Five Fingers

*"If you're a photographer out there and you're walking a lot, try out the Vibram Five Finger shoes."*

**Barefoot shoes like the Vibram Five Fingers ELX model** are, hands down, the best footwear for photographers. These shoes are all about functionality—no cramped toes, no restrictive soles. They're designed to give your feet freedom, strengthen your foundation, and improve your balance. Regular shoes feel like *garbage* by the end of the day, while these keep my feet feeling natural and unconfined. Give them a try and see how much better a barefoot experience can feel, especially for all-day city walks.

## How I Stay Warm in Winter: Layering for the Cold

For winter photography, having the right gear isn't just convenient—it's essential. A good coat is as critical as any camera when the temperature drops, letting you stay outside, stay focused, and keep capturing. Here's my setup for cold-weather armor:

1. **Down Jacket:** *Down is the ultimate winter material.* I rely on my **Canada Goose XL Parka** to keep out the chill. It's practically impenetrable, but for a budget-friendly option, Uniqlo also has some great down jackets.
2. **Down Vest:** Sometimes, it's all about doubling down on warmth. A down vest from Uniqlo or Lululemon works perfectly as an underlayer, adding extra insulation.
3. **Sweater:** My mid-layer is the **Lululemon knit sweater** paired with a T-shirt. It's warm, flexible, and keeps me comfortable without adding bulk.
4. **Two Pants:** Layering pants is a game changer for warmth. I wear a loose, wind-blocking outer layer with internal sweatpants that keep my legs cozy and protected.
5. **Wool Socks:** I recently picked up a pair of alpaca wool socks, which have been a lifesaver for winter photography. Paired with **ASICS Gore-Tex shoes**, they keep my feet warm and dry.
6. **Simple Gloves:** For operating a camera in cold weather, **Northface E-Tip gloves** are ideal. They're thin enough for dexterity but warm enough to keep my hands comfortable.

## **Clothing is Armor: Equipping for Everyday Life**

*"You wake up in the morning, you put your armor on, you equip yourself with the bare necessities."*

Every piece of clothing I wear has a purpose, whether it's my Lululemon shorts with secure pockets or my Vibram Five Fingers that keep me light on my feet. From top to bottom, these choices are about more than fashion—they're about function, resilience, and staying prepared. *Clothing is armor*, a daily choice that lets us feel ready for whatever the world brings.

So, if you're a photographer, an urban explorer, or just someone who appreciates well-designed gear, invest in the pieces that make you feel equipped and unstoppable. The right clothes keep you comfortable, focused, and ready for anything, rain or shine, warm or cold.