

# What is it with Men and their Shoes?

Everyone knows about Imelda Marcos and her passion for footwear, and we suspect that deep down, most women are budding Imeldas. But what about men? Are they careless about what they put on their feet or do they have deep feelings about their pedestrian appurtenances?

Here is another subject in this occasional series and we have asked Malcolm Ede (aged 60) to answer some questions.

1. Do you know how many pairs of shoes you have off the top of your head?

*Yes, five.*

2. Take a moment and think. Can you remember?

*Do you include slippers? And Wellington boots?*

3. Do you have a best pair?

*Yes*

4. Describe them.

*They are leather, dark brown, very shiny, comfortable and smart.*

5. How much will you pay for shoes?

*Decent trainers cost about £60 so I suppose I could go up to about £80 for a good pair of shoes, or £100 for a decent pair of leather shoes. Though I often buy shoes in sales- good quality, less cost. I always buy good quality shoes because cheap shoes have less durability- false economy.*

6. Have you a favourite pair?

*Oh yes. Reebok training shoes with air cushions. They are red, dark and light grey in colour and they look quite trendy, I think.*

7. Where do you buy?

*Shoe shops in Ealing Broadway normally- various shops. Sports shops for trainers and proper shops for good quality shoes. I wear trainers most of the time. I use worn out shoes when working in the churchyard.*

8. How do you decide what to wear?

*For a funeral, or formal occasions, I wear black leather shoes. For parties, I would wear dark grey casual shoes. For normal walking around I wear my best quality trainers. I wear Wellington boots if the weather requires them.*



9. Are shoes important to you?

*Yes, I have got to protect my feet. In another sense, they are just functions of daily life.*

10. What criteria do you have when purchasing?

*Quality, and fit for several purposes in my life.*

Malcolm's feet on the way to work in the churchyard.

