

Find a Plus Size White Button Down Shirt That Fits

By Jen (<http://abbeypost.com/blog/author/jena/>)

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The white button down shirt is a classic. You can wear it with a suit or with jeans. But the perfect plus size white button down shirt is an elusive beast. We've all been let down by button down shirts that gap at the bust, plus size or not. Yet there are some button down shirts that fit properly. Here's how to spot them in the wild.



Not All Plus Size White Button Down Shirts Are Created Equal

Some clothing manufacturers have started designing their button down shirts so that they won't gap

(http://www.denverpost.com/ci_19769904) at the bust. The more buttons a shirt has, the closer together they'll be. And that prevents gapping. Button placement is also a factor – look for button down shirts with a button that hits you at the bust – not above to below it. Caslon

(http://shop.nordstrom.com/S/caslon-cotton-blouse-plus-size/3550481?origin=keywordsearch-personalizedsort&contextualcategoryid=0&fashionColor=&resultback=5362&cm_-searchresults- -1 15 C) and Foxcroft

(http://shop.nordstrom.com/S/foxcroft-three-quarter-sleeve-shaped-tunic-plus-size/3620429?origin=keywordsearch-personalizedsort&contextualcategoryid=0&fashionColor=&resultback=965&cm_-searchresults- -1 4 A) both make white button down shirts with good button placement.



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Foxcroft Three Quarter Sleeve Shaped Tunic (Plus

Size), Nordstrom, \$90

Also, a little stretch goes a long way. Button down shirts with a little Lycra don't pull as much, and so they're less likely to gap. And don't let the dreaded bust gap make you forget your hips. If a button-down shirt is too tight across the hips, it'll pull and ride up.

Try A Looser Fit

A loose-fitting tailored button down shirt is just going to look sloppy. But there are shirts that give the look of a tailored white button down shirt without the tailoring. [NY Collection \(http://www1.macys.com/shop/product/ny-collection-plus-size-three-quarter-sleeve-lace-blouse?\)](http://www1.macys.com/shop/product/ny-collection-plus-size-three-quarter-sleeve-lace-blouse?)



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Eileen Fisher Mandarin Collar Linen Shirt (Plus Size),

Nordstrom, \$218

Skip The Buttons Entirely

Some shirts give the look of a white button down shirt without using buttons.

No buttons, no gap! [Ralph Lauren's half-zip white top](#)

<http://www1.macys.com/shop/product/lauren-ralph-lauren-plus-size-long-sleeve-half-zip-high-low-top?>

[ID=1198950&CategoryID=34048&LinkType=#fn=COLOR%3DWhite%26sp%3D2](http://www1.macys.com/shop/product/lauren-ralph-lauren-plus-size-long-sleeve-half-zip-high-low-top?ID=1198950&CategoryID=34048&LinkType=#fn=COLOR%3DWhite%26sp%3D2)

gives you the look of a button down while skipping the buttons entirely. With a hidden “button” placket, no one can tell that your button down shirt is really closed with a zipper.

[Vince Camuto's zip-front shirt \(http://shop.nordstrom.com/S/vince-camuto-zip-front-chiffon-sleeve-blouse-plus-size/3600672?origin=keywordsearch-personalizedsort&contextualcategoryid=0&fashionColor=&resultback=3497&cr-searchresults- -1 10 B\)](http://shop.nordstrom.com/S/vince-camuto-zip-front-chiffon-sleeve-blouse-plus-size/3600672?origin=keywordsearch-personalizedsort&contextualcategoryid=0&fashionColor=&resultback=3497&cr-searchresults- -1 10 B) offers looser styling, and a zipper – double protection against that too-tight look.



<http://click.linksynergy.com/link?>

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**Vince Camuto Zip Front Chiffon
Sleeve Blouse (Plus Size),
Nordstrom, \$59.40**

[INC International Concepts \(http://www1.macys.com/shop/product/inc-international-concepts-plus-size-long-sleeve-studded-blouse?ID=1137093&CategoryID=34048&LinkType=PDPZ1\)](http://www1.macys.com/shop/product/inc-international-concepts-plus-size-long-sleeve-studded-blouse?ID=1137093&CategoryID=34048&LinkType=PDPZ1) and [Michael Kors \(//shop.nordstrom.com/S/michael-michael-kors-zip-pocket-blouse-plus-size/3674371?origin=keywordsearch-personalizedsort&contextualcategoryid=0&fashionColor=WHITE&resultback=4C__searchresults-_-1_2_B\)](http://shop.nordstrom.com/S/michael-michael-kors-zip-pocket-blouse-plus-size/3674371?origin=keywordsearch-personalizedsort&contextualcategoryid=0&fashionColor=WHITE&resultback=4C__searchresults-_-1_2_B) both make great pullovers that create the illusion of a hidden button placket with trim.



(http://click.linksynergy.com/link?id=e0Yv/Jr94Vo&offerid=206959.608356942502&type=2&murl=http%3A%2Finternational-concepts-plus-size-long-sleeve-studded-blouse%3FID%3D1137093%26PartnerID%3DLINKSHARE%26cm_mmc%3DLINK__-4-_-40-_-MP440)

INC International Concepts Plus Size Long-Sleeve

Studded Blouse, Macy's, \$26.99



(<http://click.linksynergy.com/link?id=e0Yv/Jr94Vo&offerid=276223.60044690&type=2&murl=http%3A%2F%2Fst>

MICHAEL Michael Kors Zip Pocket Blouse (Plus Size)

White 1X, Nordstrom, \$99.50

Some DiY Tricks

We all have a button down shirt in our closets that used to fit perfectly. But then the slightest weight gain went straight to the chest and the shirt started pulling across the bust. Or we bought that shirt thinking it was good enough and we could tolerate the poor fit. As long as a white button down shirt fits properly everywhere else, there are some things you can do to prevent gapping.

Some people sew a hook and eye closure where their shirt pulls. [Alison at Wardrobe Oxygen \(http://www.wardrobeoxygen.com/2011/03/ask-allie-shirts-for-full-busts.html\)](http://www.wardrobeoxygen.com/2011/03/ask-allie-shirts-for-full-busts.html) says that a small safety pin will work well – just don't put the pin through the outermost layer of fabric. Double-sided fashion tape can keep your button down shirts closed. [Corporette \(http://corporette.com/2011/10/04/mind-the-gap-some-diy-options-for-gaping-blouses/\)](http://corporette.com/2011/10/04/mind-the-gap-some-diy-options-for-gaping-blouses/) suggests sewing the shirt closed with a couple of stitches and then cutting or ripping them when it's time to get undressed.

Plus Size Women CAN Wear Button Down Shirts

Let's face it – just like there are a lot of disappointing plus size clothes in general, there are a lot of plus size button down shirts that just don't cut it. But that doesn't mean busty women don't get to wear this classic wardrobe staple. It just means that we have to be discerning and only buy button down shirts that fit perfectly.



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