



FIT SETS

Improve Order Accuracy and Reduce Expenses

What is a fit set?

Fit sets are a range of sizes of the *true* uniform pants and shirts an agency uses. The agency purchases a fit set, allowing employees to actually try on the uniform garments they will be purchasing. It is not necessary to ever replace a fit set unless the agency changes uniforms styles.

Fit sets also allow new hires to be in uniform much faster. The U.S. Communities uniform contract provides agencies with the process for accomplishing this.

How does a fit set improve order accuracy?

There are two common methods used for garment sizing: measuring body dimensions or trying on garments using a fit set. To ensure an accurate and comfortable fit, fit sets are the preferred method.

Since manufacturers use different patterns to make their garments, the fit will vary according to the pattern dimensions. For example, one manufacturer's pattern for a size medium shirt may be another manufacturer's pattern for a size small shirt. Trying on uniform garments before ordering is recommended, as it helps prevent exchanges or discomfort to the wearer.

Fit sets mirror how people shop for their own personal garments. Rather than getting measured, we select garments off the rack and try them on in a fitting room. If they are too loose or tight we select a different size that fits more comfortably. Uniform garments should be selected with the same process to achieve the most comfortable fit.

How does a fit set reduce expenses?

By using a fit set, your employees will not have to leave work, travel to and from a uniform store, wait in line and then try garments on to place a uniform order. With fit sets, they can do it all right at the agency and employee labor expenses can be managed more effectively. This expense is usually not considered or budgeted by agencies. The diagram below compares the cost of sending 500 employees to a uniform store for three years to the cost of a fit set. **The total estimated savings are \$55,966.35.**

UNIFORM STORE COST ANALYSIS	FIT SET COST ANALYSIS
500 Employees x 2.5 Hours away from work <hr/> 1,250 Total hours lost x \$15 Average hourly wage <hr/> \$18,750 Total cost for one year x 3 Years <hr/> \$56,250 Total cost for three years	14 Sizes of unhemmed men's work pants x \$10.95 Cost per size* <hr/> \$153.30 Total cost for pants 15 Sizes of long sleeve men's work shirts x \$8.69 Cost per size* <hr/> \$130.35 Total cost for shirts <hr/> \$283.65 Total one-time expense

*Actual costs vary by garment styles used and size ranges desired.