

Spring Has Sprung

When this time of year comes around the world just seems brighter and more vibrant. I don't know if it's due to daylight savings time, or just that all the colors are starting to emerge again after the long dreary winter. The same can be said of the longing for new items to freshen and brighten our wardrobe too. At the Goodwill Retail Store & Donation Center near you, you'll find ample ways to put some "spring" in your step. I will discuss at various looks shown at the Spring 2010 Mercedes Benz Fashion Week in New York, and show you ways to adapt these trends to your own needs utilizing what you can find in your local GW!



First up, the bright tie-dyed slacks that the model is wearing. This would be an easy and fun project to do with a friend or your children! Look for slacks or pants made mostly of cotton fabric and then "go to town" with tie-dyeing at home. You could probably dye a couple of pieces according to how much dye you purchase. Go to the library or go online and look up more ideas for adapting this trend. I love the vibrant tones here!



The tunic dress also looks like it was custom dyed for the designer! Imagine what you could do with a silk or cotton dress you found at the GW? A little dye can certainly give you a lot of new wardrobe options. Notice here that she is wearing a more neutral sandal, so as not to compete with the vibrancy of the dress. I would suggest pairing this with a straw clutch or handbag, and you'll be good to go.



Bohemian looks are still very in. Notice the two-piece outfit shown on the model from the runway. Cut the hem asymmetrically and then add your own trim from a fabric store to create a custom look. It could easily transform a lightweight cotton or silk floral skirt. Cut the length of any ethnic top and again add your own embellishment to give it that "boho" look. You could easily create a long sleeved crop top. Here the model has on bright and distinctive shoes that pick up the color of the hem of the skirt.



This last dress is a simple tank that was hand painted and appliquéd. This is not as hard as it would seem for those of you with artistic leanings! Find a simple shift in cotton and use fabric paint, or even a fabric stamp in a floral pattern to create this look. Using varying sizes of flowers and colors in a complementary palette is the key to keeping your version sophisticated. Here the navy blue, grey, dusty rose and red complement the petal pink of the main dress. Note the funky shoes with the grey strap detail at the ankle.

As you can tell, variety abounds when it comes to choices for spring and summer 2010. It's fun and easy to add a few pieces that have a "custom" look by using things we can find at your Goodwill Store. It's a smart way to revive a dreary wardrobe and bring on fun in the sun!

