

Top Three Spring Trends

A trend is a direction in style and fashion. It is not a rule, merely a guideline based on what is and has been seen on the runways across the globe. While we may not have the worlds leading designers parading their looks in front of us 24/7, we do have the constantly changing flow of items available for us to purchase at the Goodwill Store & Donation Center! Remember great style is about adding here and there to what we already own! This column will cover what's new for Spring 2009 and how to adapt it to fit your lifestyle and budget!

JEANS

To the delight of many not so thin women, the trend of the boyfriend jean is a welcome fashion change. Get rid of the too tight, low rise jeans and put on some comfortable men's jeans ladies! This should be as simple as checking out the racks in the men's area at your local Goodwill Store. The jeans should fit at the waist and should not be too tight or too loose. These jeans need to be straight legged and cuffed at the bottom just above the ankle. Or better yet and even easier on the budget; raid your man's closet or jean drawer for the latest look at no cost! (More to spend at Goodwill adopting other trends!)

Skinny jeans are still in because they actually work for many people. They look best when they fit snugly but not so tight that you can't bend over or sit down! They look great when tucked into boots. They'll be around for a few seasons more for sure.

Wide legged boot cut jeans are a classic cut for the mid to larger gal and tend to elongate the leg and create a slimming effect. Paired over boots it's a strong fashion forward look.



BRIGHT COLORS

Spring is not a time to be somber or downbeat when it comes to color. While yellow is the unofficial color for spring, you can adopt this trend in many ways. In the long run, you are always better off finding a bright color that is flattering to your skin tone.

Blues and pinks work well for most women, so start there. On the runways sunglasses, shoes, handbags, belts and other fun accessories kept the theme of bright color blocking accessible for all.



While it may seem like a good idea to dress up like a Crayola box, pull back and try to keep the tones complementary not clashing. When in doubt use a strong dose of color as an accent and pair with more neutral palette clothes. Brightest tones, like flashy orange, purple, pink and fresh green are the way to wear modern color in a mid-length dress. Try a colorful tube dress or belted t-shirt, or a graphic striped knit dress worn with jeans or a more neutral skirt. This look always works for anyone! To really create a fashionista look, mix these brilliant shades with white for "up to the minute" dash! However, using bright color against a black background can be too heavy-handed for this light and ethereal season.



ETHNIC/ TRIBAL/ANIMAL PRINTS

These types of prints have been around forever, and have become a classic. When I am out at the Goodwill stores I see these quite often. Just be careful to avoid a costume look, and you can do that by limiting these strong tribal/ethnic/animal prints to just one or two pieces worn together.



African motifs are quite popular, when worn with chunky wooden jewelry pieces. For example, a sarong in an ethnic print looks awesome with a t-shirt and sandals. Or, try an obi/type sash to belt in a neutral colored t-shirt, blouse or shirtwaist dress. This trend also extends to the woven straw handbag or clutch, metallic cuffs, or just about anything that looks handcrafted.

These tips are a good place to start for all of you trying to update and refresh your style quotient! Keep a keen eye out for any and all of these trends the next time you are shopping at your local Goodwill Store & Donation Center, and you too can be up to the minute, and cutting edge, without cutting into your pocketbook too deeply! Have fun and make your spring fashion bright and fresh!

