

How to Wear Spring's Top Trends

Written by By: Vanja Veric
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Spring Fashion Week 2012 brought with it bold hues, unique patterns and breathtaking cuts. We're breaking down how you can take the top looks from Fashion Week and apply them to your wardrobe this spring.



New Neon

Neon brights were the hit of Spring Fashion Week in New York. Every major designer from Marc Jacobs to Jason Wu to Rodarte embraced bright hues in generous amounts.

Everything from electric yellow gowns to bright orange blazers to hot pink short suites, the theme of the season is very clear: go bright or go home. With nearly every major department store and boutique now amply stocked with the brightest looks, you can take the runway inspiration to the streets.

Color Blocking

A key way to wearing neon this spring is by color blocking your ensembles. This essentially means taking bold solid pieces in varying hues and combing them into one outfit. Something like a purple pencil skirt with an orange jacket would be a quick way to get noticed this spring. But word of advice, avoid combining more than two or three colors at once or you'll risk looking like a walking rainbow.

Hints of Color

For the more modest fashionista who isn't quite ready to jump into the neon light, you can still rock this trend by adding a few colorful pieces to basic ensembles. Pair bright pink pumps with a little black dress or yellow and tangerine jewelry with a nude blouse. It doesn't take a lot of color to make a statement. Try mixing and matching colorful accessories with neutral outfits to give a little pop without going over the top.



Bold Patterns

Feminine florals, jungle prints and metallic futuristic patterns were showcased at Spring Fashion Week. During springtime, fashionistas are free to be more daring with their print choices after being cooped up dark denim and big jackets all winter.

Florals

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Floral patterns are an easy way to look ultra feminine and romantic. This spring, try a pastel floral dress with some bold wedges and bouncy waves or a light floral blouse with straight leg pants and a sleek up-do to balance out the femininity. Floral patterns are fairly versatile so there's a lot you can do; just avoid mixing and matching too many floral patterns or your outfit will look more bouquet explosion than springtime romantic.

Safari Prints

Khaki colors, earthy tones, animal prints, oh my! The safari look is making a serious comeback this spring. After Michael Kors debuted his signature utilitarian chic collection at Spring Fashion Week, the entire globe was buzzing about the safari trend. The key to wearing this look is to remember to keep it simple with feminine elements. Go for some khaki shorts with a flowy feminine top and some strappy sandals, or if you're more daring try a full animal-print maxi dress the next time you hit the beach.



Geometric Inspiration

This spring is all about taking risks—both with color and with cut. Designers like Altuzarra, Narciso Rodriguez and Caroline Herrera favored architectural pieces with boxy patterns and harsh cutouts to add drama and flair to their collections

Cutouts

The daring look of geometric cutouts has been long favored among the red carpet elite but is quickly making its way into mainstream everyday wear. Brave fashionistas are opting for simple cocktail dresses with geometric cutouts or sweaters with sliced sleeves. The important thing to remember when rocking a cutout ensemble is to always keep things classy. This trend can go from daring and bold to cheap and trashy with a few too many slits. Remember, it's always good for your outfits to leave something to the imagination.

Architectural

Another favorite style for the geometric-inspired fashionista is the architectural cut. Everything from tight pencil skirts to cropped blazers to military jackets is favored this season. It's also a trend that can be combined with other popular spring looks. Pair a boxy jacket with a flowy floral top or a geometric shift dress with a neon belt or heel. Just remember, even though structure is in, make sure to keep everything properly fitted. Jackets or dresses that are too tight or too big can turn a hot ensemble into a quick fashion don't.



Feminine Silhouettes

Spring Fashion Week wasn't all harsh cuts and brighter-than-bright fabrics. Many designers chose to go the much more feminine route with flowy yet form-fitting pieces in varying pastel hues.

Gatsby Inspired

Designers like Marc Jacobs took cues from the 1920's classic with modern take on the icon flapper dress—minus the excessive fringe. Utilize dresses in simple 20's shapes to accentuate your figure without being overbearing. Feel free to embrace loose-fitting pants and sheer maxi dresses in silk fabrics and some Art Deco beading to grab attention at any party you may attend this season.

Simply Romantic

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The fashionista looking to show off their more romantic side this spring can embrace this trend simply in flowy knee-length dresses in floral, pastel or even nude prints. Pair them with a chic low pony tail or some free-flowing waves a la Taylor Swift and you've got a classic look perfect for any spring day.

It's important to remember that all trends come and go and the key to wearing a trend right is incorporating it into classic staple pieces and really making it your own.