

# FALL FASHION OUTLOOK

## The wrap on cool weather cover-ups

Coats for fall/winter envelop you in warmth. They're cozy, uncontrived and comfortable.

Huge shoulder pads and stiff tailoring are passe. The overall look is fluid, yet streamlined.

Long, full jackets and tunics are worn over clingy, catlike leggings.

Coat colors and patterns are flattering as well as fun; fabrics are plush and crushable.

The season's must-have cover-up is a full, elongated jacket. (A bonus: Should you need the help, it can be a hip-hider.) Wear the jacket, along with a woolen or tweed sweater, tunic and/or vest, over the season's shorter skirts, ski pants or dark leggings.

### COATS OF THE MOMENT

You'll see parkas everywhere.

They're oversize and snuggle you up in luxurious velvet, velour or quilted satin.

Swing coats are obvious toppers for fall/winter's silhouette: full on top, skinny below. Think of flow-ers supported by slender stems.

Also important is layering: You should look well-wrapped. Tie your loose jacket with a wide sash, then collar yourself with a soft knit scarf, tied and tucked.

Double-coating is definitely OK. Wear a thin outer raincoat over an undercoat of warm fur or wool. Isaac Mizrahi combines three coats: a long raincoat over a short wool poplin kimono over a short jersey kimono.

Coat colors, like the current fashion palette, are everything but black — plus patterns. Favorite

hues include military green, chocolate brown, shades of gold and plenty of pastels.

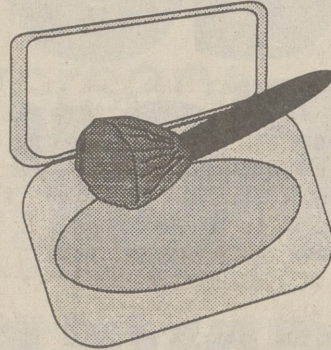
Hoods are hot. Chanel's are demure face-framers; Donna Karan's overcoat is dramatic and monklike; Romeo Gigli goes all out with capes that could have been worn by Little Red.

Trenches worth digging include classic khakis, a favorite basic showing up in unexpected fabrics and lengths. Standard trench-coat details are still the same: important-looking epaulets, buckled-up sleeves, notched collars and generous belts. (Men take note: The Dick Tracy trench is a keynote of the season.)

Other slick-styled wet-weather cover-ups come in snappy checked ginghams and storm-defying, punchy pastels.

### FASHIONFACTS

Move makeup out of the bathroom

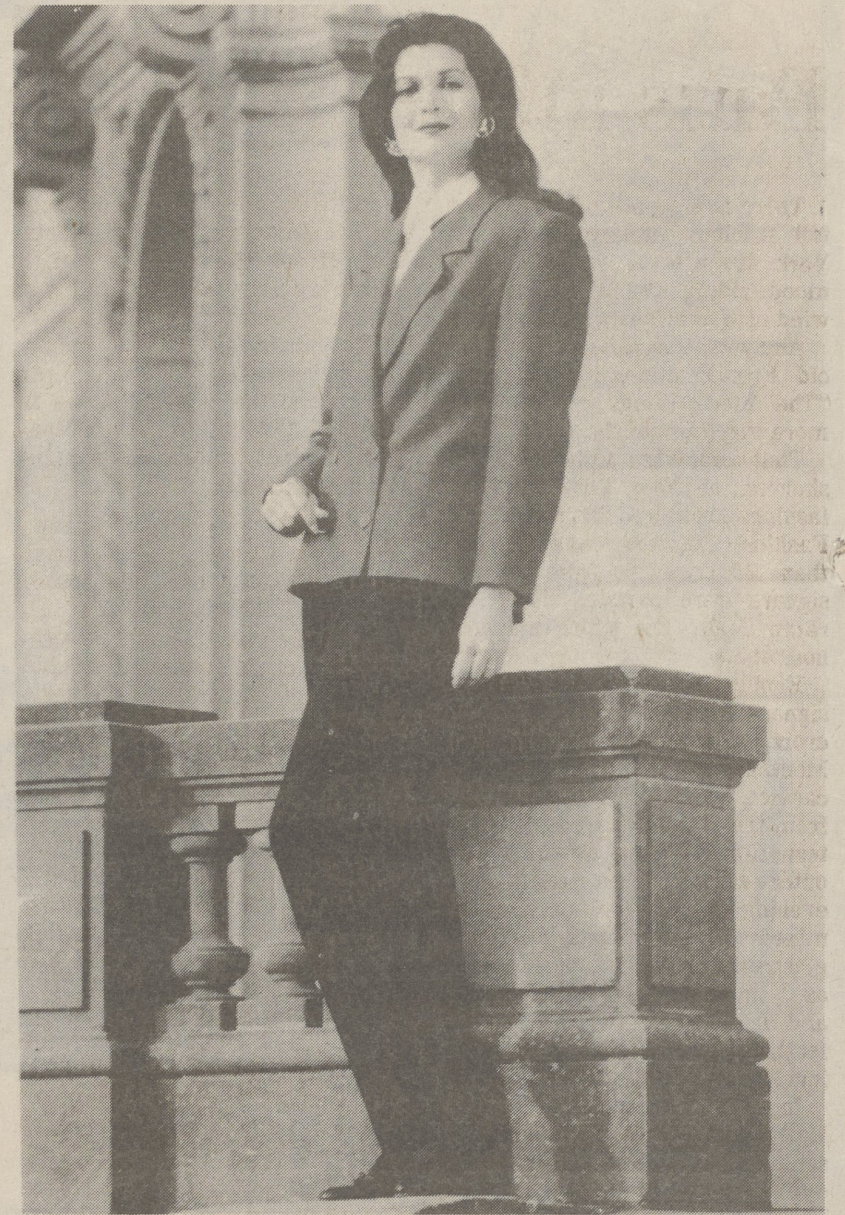


Store makeup in dry places.

Cosmetic experts say that humidity can cause powders to crumble and cream-based foundations, blushes and shadows to develop mold.

SOURCES: Mary Kay Cosmetics; First for Women magazine

Copley News Service



Work fashion — Femininity and power looks are not mutually exclusive as fashion rules in the workplace become more flexible.

## The right accessories add finishing touch

Women are rediscovering the value of accessories. With clothing costing more in a time when many women have fewer dollars to spare, accessories supply freshness and give last year's clothing new life.

Some of this season's best updaters are leggings. A cross between pantyhose and skinny pants, these opaque, cropped-to-the-ankle bottoms are worn under miniskirts as an alternative to tights when the weather is cold, or for the more daring, worn in tandem with a long sweater or jacket.

Black is the preferred color, in a cotton or cotton/Lycra blend. But runway models sported brightly hued leggings to complement many of the newer color-blocked outfits Seventh Avenue is pushing. For those who occasionally choose dressing with a retro feel, swirly, imaginatively printed leggings that recall the 1960s patterns of Emilio Pucci are also an option.

The trendiest bag to date, an import from the streets of Paris, is the backpack. No longer the boxy carryall of the French schoolchild or the self-righteously functional sack of American hikers, the backpack is sleeker than ever before — and decidedly grown-up — in black leather, or in durable black synthetic fabrications. Look for the exclusive cachet of Prada bags that sport a metal triangular tab, a status symbol among devotees of European street fashion.

Making big news now are wraps. Especially for evening. Designer Bill Blass trotted out cashmere sweaters to accompany his strapless dresses. Wrapped and tied around the neck, these toppers introduced a casual note into evening wear. Worn in lieu of scarves with tweedy suits, Blass relied on sweaters wrapped about the neck to provide a jolt of color.

Large stoles steal onto the scene now as an alternative to evening coats (another of this year's revivals). Look for brightly colored satin wraps in excess of 9 feet in length that make a dramatic statement for night. Larger than life, these wraps reflect a trend toward oversize accessories.

Scarves, too, abound in oversize squares of silk or challis. Historically speaking, scarves have provided a tableau for airing social issues. Printed with slogans that rallied citizens in wartime or commemorated British derby winners or the sites of Olympic games, scarves today reflect the greening of the fashion industry. America's growing environmental consciousness crops up on today's scarves with plant and wildlife motifs.



Accessories that matter — Ethnic-inspired jewelry, handbags, hats and belts set the tone for this season's global mood.

## Dressing for success in the business world

Women's work wear is all about image.

Don a denim jumpsuit, and you risk being assigned to the mail room. Slip into an understated, authoritative designer suit and you may not sit behind the president's desk — but you'll look as though you should.

Is it possible to shop your way to the top? Well, look at it this way: If you don't dress for success, chances are it will elude you — unless you're so brilliant your talents will overcome fashion faux pas.

Remember Tess, the lead character in the movie "Working Girl"? She created a corporate image for herself by restyling her hair, dumping her makeup and

mimicking her boss's elegant, expensive wardrobe.

You can do the same: Wear your hair short, have your colors done, schedule a session with a professional makeup consultant and work with the wardrobe pros at upscale department stores and boutiques.

If your budget is tight, shop the sales and buy classics that never go out of style.

Once you understand the basics, what works and what doesn't, what makes a classic and what best suits your personal style, then proceed to the fun part: Deliberately — but selectively — update your wardrobe to reflect the latest "look."

### FASHIONFACTS

What your sleepwear says to your partner

#### LACY NIGHTGOWNS

You are a fragile woman. Look, but touch very carefully.

#### HIS PAJAMAS

You are self-assured and adaptable to whatever adventure he has in mind.

#### THE ALTOGETHER

The woman who always sleeps in the nude seems indifferent, rather than bold and sexy.

HINT: Try variety in nightclothes to spice up your love life.



SOURCE: First for Women magazine

Copley News Service

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### Preferred Pelts

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Flora Schwartz  
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