

Fall fashion:

Your guide on how to look good and feel good in style

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Staff Writer

You've worn your white shoes and cotton twill pants for the last time. Fall is here and with it comes new fashions to replenish the wardrobes of you aspiring fashion plates.

Popular colors for fall are like the autumn leaves: crisp and radiant with earthy tones.

"Our intense colors have sold the best," said Anne Simpson, owner of Town and Campus.

Hunter greens and different shades of ruby, not burgundy, fill the racks at most stores. However, navy and black are still big sellers.

Solids may be all right but Elle magazine urges the fashion conscious to "Clash with a flash" this fall. Mixed prints and textures are very a la mode (you know, trendy) this fall. Simpson suggested teaming together a shirt with a big print and a skirt with a smaller and less busy print.

"When you keep the items

within the same color realm it makes a very nice combination," she said.

The fall lines this year definitely have a certain mood.

"There is an upsurge in ethnic styles this year," Susan Morris said. She and her husband own The Painted Bird in University Square. They import clothes made of hand-made fabrics from Guatemala and Indonesia.

For example, the fabric itaki has been woven. Certain threads are

died by the weaver to achieve a pattern in the finished result. Also, batik clothing, which is a form of tie-dyeing, sells well at The Painted Bird and at Town and Campus.

Batik fabric is coated with wax, then crinkled to break the wax in certain places. After the fabric is dyed and the wax boiled off, the dye has only colored the cracked wax places. Other popular ethnic items are the Maya belts, a woven multi-colored belt and the hand-embroidered traditional Guatemalan T-shirts.

As far as the fit goes for fall, loose and comfortable is the look. Long is in. The longer length skirts are definitely selling better than the shorter skirts, Morris said.

As an alternative to miniskirts, baggy, dressy-looking shorts above the knee are becoming the thing. They offer more movability than does a skirt. Lisa Hayward, fashion designer and owner of Modern Times, said her shorts can be worn to achieve many different looks — from playful to sophisticated.

"My longer skirts tend to be long and narrow as well as long and flowing," she said.

If you can't live without the mini, you should at least wear it right. Elle says to "Bundle up a mini with a wide belt. Layer big sweaters and jackets over skinny minis to flash a lot of leg."

For more standard wear, cardigans and vests make the statement.

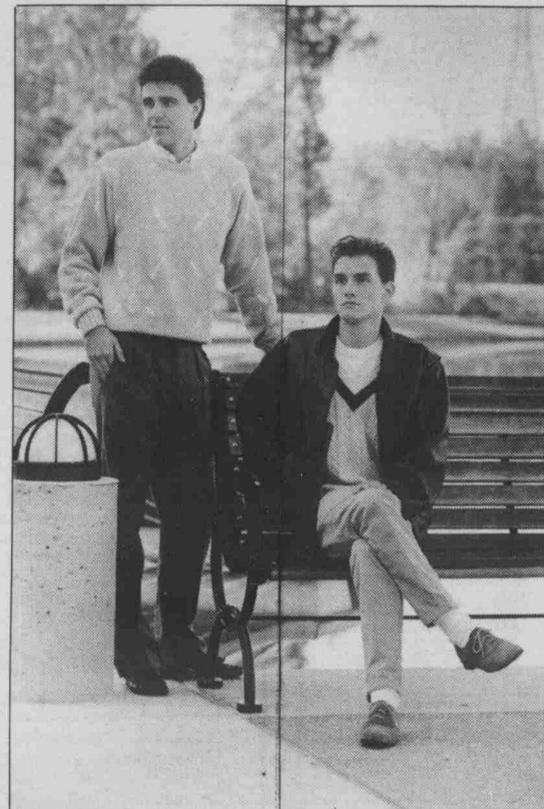
"We can't keep them on the racks," said Monika Mitchell, manager of The Lodge. Cotton sweaters are quickly taking over wool sweaters, she said. People prefer the softness of cotton over itchy wool. And cotton sweaters can be worn almost all year long. Rather than wearing the standard turtleneck under them, many people are opting for the mock turtleneck which is less restricting around the neck, she said.

To get really warm it takes more than a cardigan. For practical purposes, get an anarak, which is a nylon pullover jacket.

"It's been a hot seller at The Lodge," Mitchell said.

The rich look and feel of leather also has people going wild over leather jackets.

If you're feeling classy, then get a cashmere shawl. Elle says, "The classic cashmere shawl is making an elegant comeback." The magazine also suggests warming up with leggings, mittens and scarves



Yes, guys, it is possible to look good, feel good and be in style. Men's sweater paired with grey pleated slacks and leather bomber jacket courtesy of Julian's. Cotton V-neck sweater with navy trim by Benetton; khaki pants from Belk.

that have Nordic accents.

Speaking of scarves, they're making a hit this fall. For that finishing touch, the right accessories are essential.

"Scarves can spark up an old wardrobe without much cost," Hayward said.

Town and Campus carries an array of scarves and sashes. Many of them are batik fabric. Others are fringed on the edges with tiny beads on the end. The very large ones can be worn as a shawl. Others can be draped on the shoulders and pinned or knotted.

"Often people wear sashes as belts and leave one of the corners hanging down at the waist," Simpson said.

Other accessories making the scene are dressy pins and antique-looking earrings.

"Accessories rich in lush textures

like second-skin suedes, leather, crocodile and lizard are quite popular," Elle said.

On that same line, Modern Times sells earrings made of more traditional materials such as wood, shells and various skins.

Accessories may be nice but what about shoes — truly an essential need. The look is a funky European-style shoe.

"The European-style rubber tread-like sole works especially well with the styles we sell," Morris said.

And Hayward said these shoes are incredibly sturdy.

So, that's an overview of the fashion update in Chapel Hill for Fall '88. No drastic changes, just a few deviations from the norm.

Remember the advice of the fashion master, Yves Saint Laurent, who nicely sums up the

outlook for fall trends in Vogue: "It's traditional classic with a sense of modernity."

Well guys, jeans and a T-shirt may be fine for some things, but taking fashion seriously can be a plus for you. Although no drastic changes are seen this fall, there are still some new looks for the fashion-conscious man.

Every girl loves looking at a guy who is wearing a big old sweater. The rough, worn-in look is appealing. But what girl wants to hug a guy who is wearing an itchy wool sweater? Wear a cotton one instead, guys.

"Ninety percent of the sweaters we are selling are cotton," said Bob Simpson, owner of Town and Campus. Cotton cardigans and vests are just as popular. But do customers miss the intricate weaving patterns of a wool sweater? No, because nowadays cotton sweaters don't have to be solid. The new weaving techniques can produce cotton sweaters with all sorts of designs and textures just like wool, but they're oh so much softer.

Cotton shirts are rather soft, too, and the ones sold at Town and Campus have a small collar. It's not a button-down. These can be worn casually with jeans. For a dressier look, Simpson suggested wearing a tie with this sport shirt.

"You can have fun with it," he said.

Speaking of ties, there is always a debate about the length and width. Be serious. Jackie Perry, manager of The Hub, promotes a tie that's a little wider at the bottom and narrower at the top.

"It's the '30s and '40s look," he said.

Also popular from this era are baggy pants with a full-cut thigh that allows for movement. As far as pleats and cuffs go, Perry said a pleated pant should always be cuffed, and a straight-cut pant is never pleated.

Gentleman Quarterly magazine suggests choosing a double-breasted jacket for a sleek look when you're putting your ensemble together. The suit coats this fall have an extended shoulder making the coat look tapered, but it's not. It also hides a less than perfect physique!

"It's not a confined but a relaxed movement when you wear this type of coat," Perry said.

To finalize a classy outfit, the shoes need to be au courant. Instead of the basic lace-up wing-tips, the younger men opt for the

loafer type shoe that is more cut out to show patterned socks such as those by E.G. Smith. For casual wear guys choose the lug sole Weejun.

"Wear a pair of Weejun with wide wale cords and you've got a perfect look," Perry said.

And what goes under this "perfect look"? It's the Polo pin-striped

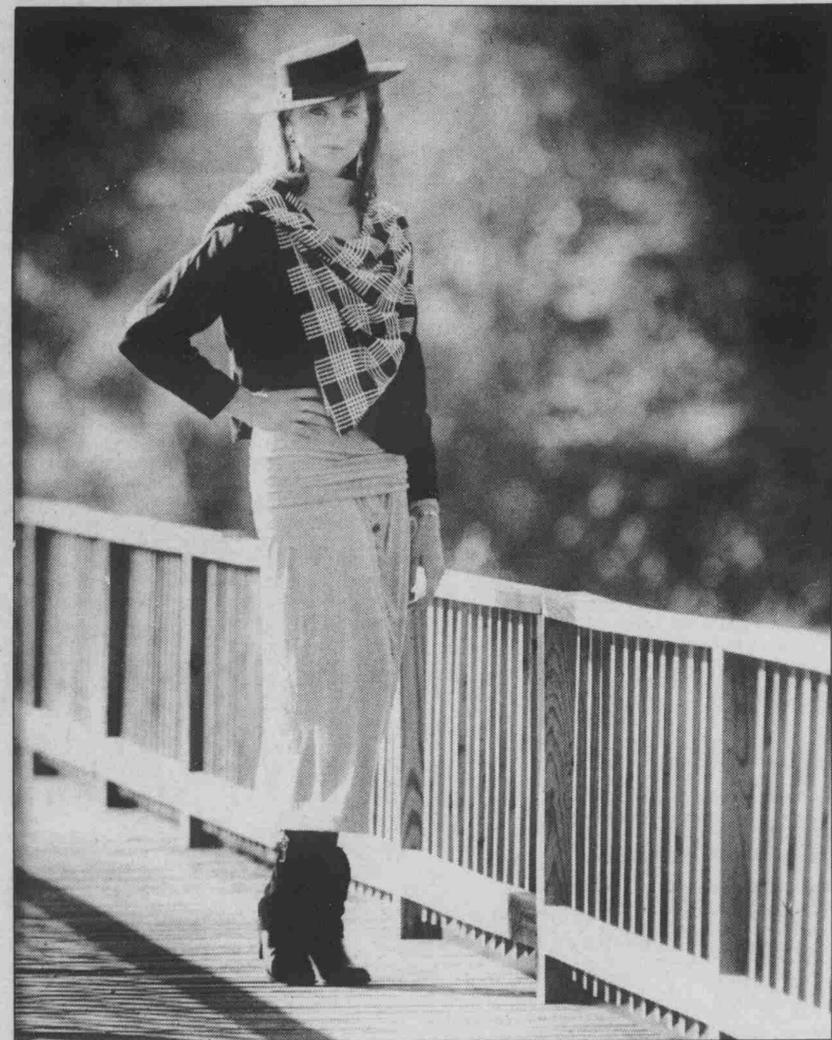
boxer shorts that sell the best at The Hub.

Now you can relax, your college fall fashion worries are covered. Literally.



One of the most popular looks for fall is both casual and classy. Cardigan sweater with matching skirt and mock turtleneck pullover courtesy of The Lodge. Black sweater with gold crest by Benetton; houndstooth pattern pants by The Gap.

Photos by
Dan Charlson



All dressed up and still comfortable. Depending on your mood, you can look playful or sophisticated by combining several fashion staples. Black Bolero hat, grey-knit skirt, black cotton shirt and black and white print scarf courtesy of Modern Times.