

Fashion Forecast

by Sandra Keiser and Brenda Schweder

More is more

- The fashion pendulum may someday swing back to minimalism, but for now, feminine details and embellishments prevail with an emphasis on opulence and color.



SHADES OF SPRING

▶ **SEASIDE PALETTES** decorate runway fashions. In addition to aqua blues and greens, look for colors reminiscent of grayed clapboard cottages, once-bright boats with furred white sails, pink and apricot shells, and golden brown sand. Colors appear softly bleached by the sun or darkened by the graying sky.

▶ **INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCES** reign. Picture Mexican vegetable stands heaped with eggplants, tomatoes, and tomatillos; Indian spice markets with curry and paprika; or Greece's signature shade of marine blue.

◀ **BLACK** is more prominent than ever — alone or paired with white in graphic accents. Some accents resemble lace or ethnic embroidery. Others are large, with single patterns covering the entire garment.



NEW APPROACHES TO CLASSICS

Fabrics are both airy (gauzes and featherweight knits) and textural (piqués and burnout fabrics). Through digital technology, prints are scaled to a garment; mechanical treatments and washes are applied to fabrics other than denim. For a romantic Victorian look, lace serves as both a garment's base cloth and its trim in blouses, jackets, skirts, and dresses. To avoid the overly feminine, grommets and studs in brushed finishes punk up accessories.

ON A JET PLANE

An anomaly among brilliant jewels and gleaming gold, black remains jewelry's biggest color story. Chunky, faceted necklaces cover the chest or extend to the waist; bracelets travel the forearm. Also newsworthy are black feathers, crosses, and tassels. Create your own monochromatic piece with jet, onyx, black agates or pearls, ebony, lavastone, or glass.



GOLDEN GLAMOUR

Gold has never been bigger. The newest look is a rich, slightly grainy, yellow gold that's more matte than polished. Some of our favorite sightings:

- liquid-gold bracelets dotted with gleaming blue sapphires or black diamonds
- filigree cuffs and chandelier earrings
- free-form, hammered disk earrings
- fine chain in a scarf-style necklace
- multicolored (yellow- and rose-gold) charm bracelets
- gold-bead necklaces and bracelets
- textured pieces (braided chains, etched bangles, and woven hoops)



DO IT YOURSELF

▶ Celebrate color in a gold necklace with briolettes (p. 82).

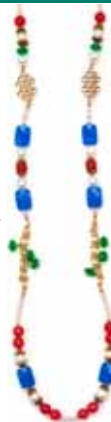
◀ String a seaside palette in a simple floral necklace (p. 56) or crystal bracelet (p. 28). ▼

▶ Combine matte and shiny finishes in mixed-metal earrings (p. 72).



MIXED JEWELS

To call the season's jewelry ornate is an understatement. Overstate your case for embellishment, pulling inspiration from royal jewelry vaults in Eastern Europe, Morocco, India, and Russia. Brilliant color combines with muted tones: sapphire, ruby, garnet, diamond, emerald, yellow and blue topaz, citrine, iolite, amethyst, pink tourmaline, and peridot mix with pearls in black, gold, ivory, and white. Enamel and cloisonné make a comeback, echoing an international-jewelry theme.



JEWELRY LINKS



To see more of the latest jewelry styles, check out:

emitations.com

ippolita.com

jacquelinejarrot.com

khwjewelry.com

lauragibson.com

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