

SECRETS OF Back to School Fashions!

By Tanya Brown

Well it's that time again! Time to think about what to wear on the first day of school; should I dress chic and understated, fresh but funky or trendy with an attitude? Whatever fashion direction suits your personality, remember what you wear on the first day of school will set the tone for the year. First appearances mean a lot, so if cool fashions are important to you, then dress to impress!



Try not to drive yourself crazy thinking about what everyone else is wearing. Think what you are going to wear and how it will make you feel. Think about the flow of your color, texture and pattern selections. Most of all be consistent, this will help you trademark your personal style. What not to do on the first day of school is to look like you stepped out of the current issue of Seventeen Magazine, then turn around and wear cutoffs and tee shirts for the rest of the year. However, magazines and TV make great resources for inspiring you to make selections that will visually assist in putting your outfits together.

As you look in your closet and go through your dresser drawers, think about what you are missing. Unless you can afford an entire new wardrobe you will have to work with what you have and fill in the missing pieces. When you decide to make your selections, pick and choose items that you can imagine incorporating into your wardrobe.



By laying your clothes, footwear and accessories out and sort them into categories to give you a better idea of what you need to complete your new updated look. Also, use your imagination and sketch new designs with pieces from your current wardrobe such as changing the length of an old skirt or pants and perhaps adding a trim to make a top or jeans look fresh.

If you are a jeans and tee shirt teen, Jeggings are still hot for fall. Not sure what a Jegging is? A Jegging is a combination of jeans and leggings. Usually a Jegging has the feel of a legging and the look of a pair of jeans. If you are going to stick to jeans and tees, change it up! Layer a vest one day (leather and suede are hot right now), add a chunky knitted hip belt another day, one day keep it simple and add a ton of bracelets because, remember, accessories can make or break an outfit.

If team sports is more your taste, don't think you are limited to fancy gym shorts and sweats! Hoodies are hot and they come in a lot of colors and textures, so try wearing a crisp tank and

jeans or leggings with your Hoodie. Let's not forget about your feet. Sneakers have come a long way; try a pair of cute over-the-top studded glamour kicks.

So maybe you like the dressy side of fashion; but, comfort is a must in class. Make a dress or a skirt your key piece and work around it. If you choose a dress, while the weather is still warm, pair it with multiple necklaces, textured footless tights and, if you are up for the challenge, platform sandals would be cute. When the weather starts to change, pair a cute sweater with your dress, opaque tights and a pair of boots that would be street chic. Skirts work the same way, but keep the same idea as the dress with a couple of simple changes. While the weather is still warm, try a baby doll style tee shirt with a belt then, when the weather changes, turtle necks are always a fashion hit!

As I mentioned, accessories can really make an outfit sparkle and make you look very pulled together. Accessories go on forever such as hats, scarves, handbags, necklaces, bracelets and rings to name the basics. If you

like scarves, try tying one onto your bookbag to add color and flare. Dress up or change the look of a hat by tying a scarf around it and adding a funky pin. Tying a scarf around the neck is always a classic look so change it up by tying your scarf around your wrist, angle or even your boot for fun fashion pizzazz! Bracelets are really hot right now. Try gathering all the bracelets you have (don't worry if they are different styles) and layer them straight up your arm; they are sure to catch the eye or ear of your friends. Chunky necklaces and big rings are great accent pieces for the perfect polished fashion look.

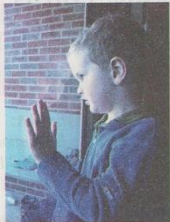
Whatever you decide to wear on your first day of school fashion debut, remember Jeggings are hot, accessories are important to the finished look of any outfit, leather or suede is simple and chic, your feet can be fun with glitter sneakers to sleek boots and don't forget a dress can take you many places. I hope you will find some helpful hints to make this a fun, fabulous and fashionable year. ☺

Tanya Brown is the owner of Modeling AZZ, LLC.

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