

UNIQUELY YOU

eZine by ORENE

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LOOKING YOUR BEST

The most common error made in matters of appearance is the belief that one should disdain the superficial and let the true beauty of one's soul shine through. If there are places on your body where this is a possibility, you are not attractive--you are leaking.

--Fran Lebowitz

In all seriousness, everyone is unique and special. Finding your own personal style, so that your outside matches what is inside and so that you feel confident about your image presented to the world every day is my goal. This eZine will come out quarterly, containing interesting tips and information, to help you discover your personal style.

TOP TEN GREAT SUMMER TRENDS TO ADOPT

1. *Every Shade of White-- Dresses Blouses, Shoes and Accessories.* The hottest color of the season is not a color at all. They span a monochromatic palette of milk, ivory, flaxen, ivory, ecru and eggshell—you name it. Designers have created gorgeous dresses, blouses and skirts that may be tiered, embroidered, and sheer, with fabric in tulle, lace or linen. Pretty is the operative word.
2. *Romantic Blouses.* Feminine, romantic blouses with details such as lace, eyelet, puffed sleeves and ruffles are very popular now. These can be paired with anything: from tailored pants for work, jeans and skirts.
3. *Shorts—Long, Medium and Short.* Countless designers have shown shorts on the runway and they're dressing them up for evening and down for casual. The right length and style on you are key for flattering your figure. The new look in shorts can handle many types of shoes, from espadrilles, ballet flats and flat sandals to higher wedges and pumps.
4. *Metallics are Hot.* Various shades appear in everything from clothing to accessories. Strappy summer sandals and thongs in these neutral metallics are a new basic.

5. *Belts are Back!* The waist is highlighted this season. Try belting a sweater or dress. Every type of style and width are in. This is a great way to bring in the metallics!
6. *Oversized Bags, Lighter Weight for Summer.* Softly structured and a bit slouchy, from purses to totes, this goes with the ease of a summer wardrobe.
7. *Bright Colors in Dresses, Blouses and Accessories.* Stand out shades are attention-getters this season. If head to toe bright doesn't work for you, try punching your neutrals with color. Red is particularly popular for a kick of color.
8. *Ethnic and Craft Looks.* This trend has evolved into a more arts and crafts look. Crochet details are everywhere—on dresses, sweaters, bags and sandals. Exotic prints, unusual embroidery and beaded touches look great!
9. *Nautical Looks.* This was in for spring and carries into summer. The look goes from striped shirts, sailor-styled pants and skirts, bathing suits, heavily-buttoned jackets and sandals to aviator sunglasses. Touches of gold and rope accents add some fun.
10. *Dresses.* Whether it is a shift, shirtdress or slinky, a dress is a key wardrobe piece this season. Summer sundresses look great in prints, brights or whites. Dresses may be structured, ethereal, infused with volume, sultry or chic.

SERVICES OF AN IMAGE CONSULTANT

ASSESSING YOUR PERSONAL STYLE.

We have greater fashion freedom than ever! Sometimes it's hard to deal with all these choices.

- The work place is becoming more casual. How do we look professional?
- The trends in the fashion industry may or may not suit us. How do we stay current in a flattering and appropriate way?
- Some of us dress to “hide” ourselves (often ending up looking like the “M” word-matronly). How do we dress to enhance and slim our figures?

One of the services of an Image Consultant is to assist you in meeting these challenges and more. The process of developing and assessing your personal style is the foundation for building a wardrobe that works for you. Although your body type, coloring and bone structure are all very important, many other factors, such as your personality, lifestyle, outlook, goals, and how you see yourself, are also key! This process is sometimes eye-opening, always interesting and fun. Updating your image will bring out your self-confidence!

Reminder: Casual Does Not Mean Sloppy!

WHAT IS A CLOSET AUDIT?

Everything in your closet should work for you! One of my services is a closet audit. It is fun and productive. You end up with a feeling of accomplishment and ready for the next season. We would go through as much or little of your closet as you desire—all completely confidential. At the end of the closet audit, you will have great combinations from head-to-toe, so you can confidently repeat the dynamic outfits we'll be coming up with. Some of our goals would be:

- Taking a fresh look at what you have, often putting together great new outfits from what is already in your closet;
- Weeding out pieces that no longer work or are in style—clearing out the clutter;
- Giving yourself permission to weed out past mistakes or gifts from well-meaning friends or relatives;
- Making a list of and prioritizing items you need in order to develop a core wardrobe that suits your personal style;
- Discovering what's missing in your closet that could have you utilizing more of what you already have, including items to go with "orphan" pieces (which we all have) ;
- Finding out what clothes need alterations, to see if clothes you've had awhile can be updated and/or provide you with better fit and proportion;
- Ascertaining what additional items you may want to shop for (including unique and fun items), if any; and
- Discovering if a particular part of your lifestyle is neglected, such as play, dating, special occasion or work, and strategize about filling that in.

Until next time!

Take care,

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