

MEN'S FASHION

FALL
2013

text by Harper MacLean photos courtesy Saks Fifth Avenue, Biltmore Fashion Park

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STYLE IS AN
EXPRESSION OF
INDIVIDUALISM
MIXED WITH
CHARISMA. FASHION
IS SOMETHING THAT
COMES AFTER STYLE.
- JOHN FAIRCHILD

Season after season, fashion conscious men and women look to stay current with ever-evolving trends while keeping their own personal style intact. With a plethora of themes that are each interpreted differently by each designer, there are plenty of options to pick from, and the fun comes when weaving in new pieces with staples for a fresh collection. To get the latest tips on men's style this autumn, we spoke with Saks Fifth Avenue fashion guru Eric Jennings, New York-based Vice President and Phoenix's Fashion Director for Men's and Home, Men's Department Manager John Coffman and Marketing Director Amy Videan of Saks Fifth Avenue at the Biltmore Fashion Park. This season is all about making a statement and finding the perfect look. >

LOOK SPIRITED

The traditional colors of fall are in play as usual this season, but be on the look-out for two fun additions for 2013. "Each season there is one main color. This year it's a berry color and bottle green, and mixing the berry and bottle green together. In the past there were more olive shades," shares Jennings.

There's really a chance for men to punch up their wardrobe this season by bringing these vibrant hues into the mix, but there's no need to go overboard. "It's really about updating your look with these colors; you don't need a whole new wardrobe to do it," says Videan. "I think it makes the look a lot more fun when you can bring in that injection of color."

And the color explosion doesn't have to stop there. "The must have fall accessory: the commuter bike in pop colors," says Coffman. From fashion to function and everywhere in between, 'tis the season to have fun with color. >



OPPOSITE PAGE; VERSACE COLLECTION THIS PAGE; CORNELIANI



LOOK TOUGH

While this new focus on color may take some men out of their comfort zone, "the look is strong masculine this season," explains Jennings. "[It's] easy for a traditional as well as a fashion guy to work into his wardrobe."

Few items show this strength better than the jackets of the season. Originally designed for free-spirited motorcyclists and aviators, Biker and Bomber Jackets have been retooled for fall with a slew of designer details. Look for autumn colors like bottle green and navy and fabrics like cashmere, quilted cotton and ultra-soft suede from Salvatore Ferragamo, Belstaff, Boss, Vince and Band of Outsiders. >

LOOK SHARP

To keep that fashion forward edge, look for dark and dressy prints this season. "There's prints like there's never been prints before, and I think men aren't afraid of that anymore," says Videan. There's florals, paisleys, a lot of graphic patterns and color blocking."

"There will be darker backgrounds, almost like a tie pattern, in shirt," elaborates Jennings. For a business casual look, pair a print back to a sport coat and tie; for an off-duty look, layer prints with solid sweaters. Look for dark and dressy prints from Bugatchi, Sand, Robert Friedman, Corneliani and Vince.

For a classic, yet urban look this season, embrace the Retropolitan movement. Vibrant, energetic and young at heart, the Retropolitan takes traditional menswear pieces and adds an unexpected twist, lending a quirky undertone to this dapper aesthetic. The colors, prints and tailored pieces this season are all great ways to bring the trends to life for fall. >





LOOK BOLD

Similar to women's fashion for fall, there's an emphasis on bringing multiple styles, patterns and textures together this season that carries over beyond clothes into accessories and shoes. "[Try] wearing multiple bracelets along with a watch; leather, exotic stone, sterling silver and a colorful watch. Mix it up for max effect," advises Coffman. The trend can even extend all the way down to footwear. "It's so fun to see men embracing making a statement with their footwear because shoes are extremely important for men now," says Videan. "They've got animal prints injections in them from designers like Versace, Jimmy Choo, Nicholas Kirkwood. There's a whole new designer direction in footwear where it's trend based; it's not just your classic beautiful basic style." Jennings points out even more detail in footwear, advising to keep an eye out for "shoes with stud details, pony hair, metallic materials and interesting embellishments." There's even a chance to turn a traditionally casual look fancier with "dressy sneakers, high-tops and a slipper shoe for a more dressy look." ::

