

BEAUTY IN A BEAT
FASHION HEAD TO TOE

THE
Kit
BEAUTY &
FASHION

15 steps
to get

SUMMER
ready

Please see story, page 4

Off with the clothes,
on with the bikinis. Our
top 10 pros across the
country give you 15 tips
for a sleeker and more
polished pool-ready bod'

BY DEBORAH FULSANG

MODEL: BERGER/MONDADORI SYNDICATION



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ask jeanne

HANDLE HIM WITH CARE

Dear Jeanne, How do I break it to my new boyfriend that he really needs to amp up his dress sense if he wants to continue taking me out? (Nice guy, though.)—Marcella

Dear Marcella, This is a tough one, because at this early stage of the romance, you don't want to turn your new guy off by making him feel insecure, or think that you're overly concerned with appearances. Still, if fashion is important to you and you're intent on inspiring your man to turn up the style volume, you need to take action. He's got to realize style aesthetics turn you on, and that pulling up his fashionable

socks will make him more attractive to you.

First, you have to make sure he knows how much you appreciate attention to detail and the whole notion of dressing up. Take him window-shopping or pore over men's fashion magazines together, telling him how amazing he'd look in some of the clothes and accessories you see. Find out what appeals to him. You might even surprise him with a subscription to a men's fashion magazine. That would definitely be dropping a hint!

Introduce your new boyfriend to fashion in fun ways. It may be a bit of an investment at first, but buy him a fabulous shirt or sweater or tie—something he might not get for himself—and tell him how good it makes you feel to see him wear it. Chances are he'll try to please you. I'm not suggesting you give him an instant make-over, though; you don't want to appear too opinionated or overbearing.

I think many men want to dress well, but some don't feel confident making their own style choices or don't think they can afford to dress in a stylish way—a misconception, because, as we all know, great style doesn't necessarily cost big bucks. This is your chance to not only share your fashion expertise and style philosophies, but also to help your man see the fun in strutting it.

While I'm encouraging you to turn the style lights on for your beau, there's no promising he'll

respond the way you want him to. Some people just don't want to embrace the joys of fashion and are not that into "amping up" their dress sense, as you put it. If he's reluctant to follow your lead, you may have to learn to ignore his uninspired style of dressing, and concentrate on all the other cool things about him. True love will find a way.

—Jeanne

Send your questions to askjeanne@thekit.ca. Follow @Jeanne_Beker on Twitter.

Jeanne is a contributing style editor to the Toronto Star and host of FashionTelevision Channel.



ILLUSTRATION: FREDERICK WATSON

one-minute miracle

BIKINI WITH BENEFITS

BY VANESSA TAYLOR

The sunny colour is the first thing people will notice, but this bikini boasts a few friendly extras. First, the seams under the bust add extra support, while the molded cup offers additional coverage for when you're getting into a chilly pool. As for the bottoms, the tummy-taming ruched panel offers coverage and helps camouflage lumps or bumps—without having to veer from a classic bikini brief.



J. Crew ruched French nylon-spandex bikini top, \$56, and brief, \$58, jcrew.com



Brooklyn Decker

WHAT WE WANT THIS WEEK

TOP THE KIT LIST 7

CLOTHING KIT

SPORTY SHORTS

Since a high-waisted style can be tricky to pull off, the piping on these shorts is genius. The contrast gives the illusion of a smaller hip. H&M polyester-blend metallized shorts, \$60, hm.com/ca



BODY KIT

PETITE PERFUME

Marc Jacobs reinterprets his plastic-petalled Daisy fragrance bottle into an irresistible perfume-to-go. In the original and Eau So Fresh scents. EDT, \$42 (20 ml), at The Bay, Holt Renfrew, Sears and Sephora for a limited time



HANDBAG KIT

DO-ANYTHING SATCHEL

The ideal bag for your weekend mini-break goes sightseeing during the day, then out for the evening. Smart Set faux-leather bag, \$35, smartset.ca

FACE KIT

GREAT GLOSS

Benefit is building on the popularity of their pretty Face Powders—a.k.a blush—by releasing six lipglosses that match in shade and in name, too. Ultra Plush Gloss comes in Dandelion, Hoola, Sugarbomb, Coralista—you get it. \$18 each, murale.ca



SHOE KIT

SUMMER BOOTS

Sorel sets its sight on summer with the Lake Boot. Laser-cut details and leather footbeds make it pretty and comfortable, with a rubber outsole to stay true to their rugged roots. \$180, sorelfootwear.ca



HAIR KIT

HAIR REFRESHER

We're fans of the wash-your-hair less movement. That said, L'Oréal Professionnel Fresh Dust dry shampoo freshens up your hair and adds texture without stickiness. \$17, at salons



ACCESSORIES KIT

STRAW HAT

Easy, breezy and such a happy price. There are so many reasons to don this Spring fedora-slash-sunhat. \$16, myspringshoes.com

on the cover READY FOR SUMMER

Craving a streak-free faux tan? Have a sensitive bikini-zone query? Maybe a pressing pedicure question? These 15 tips from beauty experts across the country will keep you looking groomed and polished in the summer sun

BY DEBORAH FULSANG

Butter London
Handbag Holiday
Cuticle Oil, \$18,
butterlondon.com

one

“Exfoliate first, then moisturize elbows, knees and feet before applying self tanner to avoid streaks and blotches. And slow down. The most common mistake in self-tanning is applying too quickly. **Take your time and use an application mitt.**”—*Laura Gobbo, fruitiondayspa.ca, North Vancouver*

two

“**Know that hormones can affect the staying power of your spray tan.** Sometimes, if you’re having your period, your tan won’t last as long. HRT can also have an impact on your tan’s longevity.”—*Laura Downing, sundrops.ca, Calgary*

three

Custom-blend your own exfoliator. **“Mix epsom salts and a body wash of your choice.** Add a drop or two of lavender essential oil to add aroma and a wellness essence to your mix.”—*Erica Azevedo, waxing-clinic.ca, Toronto*

four

“When it comes to sunscreens, people often forget their hands and feet. As a result of continuous unprotected sun exposure, **those parts of our bodies get pigmentation marks and wrinkles faster than other parts.** SPF 30 is your ultimate choice.”—*Sam Globa, conceptstoronto.com, Toronto*



Joe Fresh nailpolish in Orange Sorbet, Lime Juice and Fluo Blue, \$10 each, joefresh.com

ten

“Prepare your nails for a beautiful summer season by giving them a two-to-four week boost with nail hardeners and strengtheners. **And always use cuticle oil.**”—*Sam Globa, conceptstoronto.com, Toronto*

Butter London
Handbag Holiday
Cuticle Oil, \$18,
butterlondon.com

five

“Apply self-tanner in a well-lit room and remember to wear sunscreen, as **facial tanners don’t offer SPF.**”—*Dorothy Sjogren, axispa.ca, Toronto*



Rodial Brazilian Tan Face Tinted Self Tanning Gel, \$45, The Bay and Muraie

Bic disposable
shavers, \$4
for 12-pack, at
drugstores

eleven

Get buff. **“Use a double-sided buffer: It’s a nice way to keep your nails looking manicured without nail polish.** Use the lightly abrasive side on the surface of the nail first, and then polish with the smooth side for shine. And use cuticle oil. Fave: Solar Oil by CND or Handbag Holiday by Butter London.”—*Jenny Benattar, rougenailbar.com, Montreal*

six

“To prevent ingrown hairs in the bikini zone, avoid shaving or shave properly and less often. **Use a one-blade razor, shave in same direction the hair grows**—after soaking in warm water—and use shaving cream.”—*Galia Zagury, rainspa.ca, Montreal*

twelve

Be high-maintenance. “Like teeth and hair, nails are healthiest when regularly maintained. This means cutting, keeping cuticles neat and moisturized, and keeping the space underneath nails clean from dirt—especially when regularly visiting the beach and wearing open-toe shoes.”—*Numie Phan, purenailbar.com, Vancouver*

seven

Buff your body after applying tanning lotion. “Take a buffing mitt and gently buff down your body to make sure your tan dries streak-free.”—*Natalie Gee, geebeauty.com, Toronto*

Eveline Charles
Soothing Foot Balm,
\$18, evelinecharles.com

thirteen

“Wash the bikini area with a bath glove or a body scrub like **St. Ives Apricot scrub.** It exfoliates and lifts the hair away from the follicle. **You’ll remove dead skin that can block pores and hair that may want to push through.**”—*Erica Azevedo, waxing-clinic.ca, Toronto*

eight

Be religious with foot cream. “In the summer, we wear shoes with no support like flat sandals that cause cracks in heels. Use a balm daily, such as **Eveline Charles Soothing Foot Balm.** A cooling balm helps with circulation for tired legs, too.”—*Cheryl Johns, evelinecharles.com, Calgary and Edmonton*

fourteen

“Before self-tanning, **exfoliate with an oil-free exfoliator** such as a shower gel. That way, there’s no oily residue that will interfere with your tan.”—*Laura Downing, sundrops.ca, Calgary*

nine

“Moisturize on a daily basis to keep skin supple and hair soft. It helps hair grow out properly, too. One of my favourite lotions is J.R. Watkins Lavender Hand & Body Lotion—99.10% natural and no parabens. And don’t shave if you wax.”—*Erica Azevedo, waxing-clinic.ca, Toronto*

fifteen

“Use a callus buffer in the bath or shower at least once a week. (It’s more effective if your feet have been soaked in warm water.) Follow up with a rich foot cream. Once all the dead skin cells have been scrubbed off, the cream can really do its job. You’ll have sandal-ready heels in no time.”—*Jenny Benattar, rougenailbar.com, Montreal*

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NEWS



FAKE SNAKE

Snakeskin has always been a red carpet trend and it continues to show up on Hollywood A-listers, but this look surely steals the spotlight. Not since Britney Spears's 2001 VMA performance with a live reptile have we seen such a bold snake statement. First **Emma Stone**, then **Jennifer Lopez** chose this **Lanvin** tri-coloured sheath slithering with a bejewelled stuffed snake. Does this mean python pumps will be big for fall or can we expect more muppet-adorned couture?



Anna Dello Russo and Creative Advisor at H&M, Margareta van den Bosch

ANNA DELLO RUSSO FOR H&M

Vogue Japan fashion director-at-large Anna Dello Russo will be the next H&M collaborator. Focusing her well-trained eye solely on accessories rather than a full selection of apparel, the flamboyant editor's collection will include jewellery, sunglasses, shoes, bags and a carry-on. Dello Russo promises that the pieces will help turn an ordinary day into a fantastic fashion day. Available in October.

GET KANYE'S RUNWAY NECKLACE

Although his designer debut was mostly bashed by fashion critics, **Kanye West's** first collection garnered a few fans, including famed French fashion shop, **Colette**. On Rue Saint-Honoré in Paris—and online—Colette will carry the "Yeezi" nameplate necklaces made by luxury jeweler Jacob and Co. and worn on West's runway. What Yeezi means exactly, only West knows for sure.



FOOT INJECTIONS

How far would you go to make Manolos more comfortable? Apparently the number of women willing to go under the needle or knife so they can stand their five-inch heels has doubled since last year. In most cases, collagen is being injected into the toe pads, heels and balls of the feet to add an internal insole of sorts and in some cases, women are having their feet narrowed so they can fit into steep pumps.

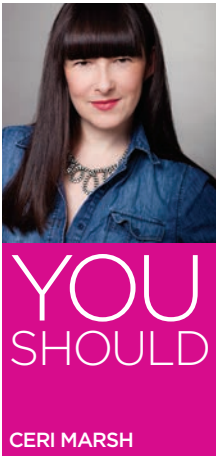
THE STREET STYLE



CITY MONTREAL
NAME JENN BENJAMIN
AGE 27
OCCUPATION FREELANCER
WHERE ST. VIAUR
WHAT IS SHE WEARING? Vintage vest, BCBG blouse, Hudson jeans and Converse shoes.

INSPIRATION: "I toss on whatever feels right. While this faux-fur vest feels better suited to colder weather, pairing it with a lighter colour palette sees it working quite well for the transition from winter into spring. It's a great layering piece."

BY THE KIT PHOTOBLOGGER: STEPHANIE BORIDY, LECHEAPCESTCHIC.COM



BUY PROPER LINGERIE

As the weather warms up and clothes lighten up, you see her more and more on the street. You know her, the woman whose underwear doesn't match her outerwear. Why does she pair her black, T-shirt bra under a pale, lightweight summer dress? It's not because she's having a *Who's That Girl?* moment. More likely it's because, like many women, she doesn't think about how what goes underneath her new **Marni** for **H&M** frock will make it look. When you consider what we spend on clothes, doesn't it make sense to be sure they look as good as possible? Which is what great-fitting lingerie can do for you—they call them foundation garments for a reason. You should have a grown-up lingerie wardrobe.

You've heard it a million times: most women are wearing the wrong size bra. **Vasilisa Panagakos**, owner of the Toronto lingerie boutiques **Avec Plaisir**, says we should forget about sizes. First of all, your size will vary from brand to brand. But Panagakos says you're better off getting the right style and shape for the garment you intend to wear it under. "A woman will come into the boutique, find a bra she likes and wants six of them. But, do you wear the same clothes every day? Most women don't wear the same neckline or fabric every day." Enter, the lingerie wardrobe.

Christina Remenyi, designer of the retro-sexy line **Fortnight Lingerie**, says you should start with a black underwire bra and skip the seamless

bras you're addicted to. The foam cup that most less-expensive bras are made of forces your shape to alter rather than the other way around, leaving you with what Remenyi calls "a shield" instead of a natural shape. "A lot of us wear dark colours most of the year so it's a good basic, plus it's a little sexy." After that, you want to add a bra that's close to your skin colour.

You may not need a strapless bra very often, but when you do, you need it to fit properly. "Everything thing depends on the fit," says Remenyi. Given how long this will likely last you, it's worth spending on one that comfortably does the job.

Both Remenyi and Panagakos recommend having some kind of control piece in your arsenal as well. Whether it's a simple bodysuit that will give you coverage under sheer clothes or a true shaping piece to smooth things out under clingier fabrics, most people can use one.

But it's not all about the girls. "Panties!" says Panagakos. You may think bikini styles look sexier when you're out shopping, but they almost always show under slim skirts and trousers. "Always have a full brief if you don't want lines."

And when it comes to creating a pleasing silhouette with your underthings, all roads lead back to the dressing room. Putting yourself—and your bosom—in the hands of an expert will make a difference. "When a woman is fitted properly," Panagakos says, "her friends will ask if she's lost weight." Remenyi agrees: "It's the five-minute diet."

SHOPPING



FASHION

HERE COMES THE SUN

Vacation (or staycation) planned? Long weekend booked? Welcome warmer temps with wardrobe additions that are light, bright and easy to wear



OCEAN PATTERN

An every-bit-as-pretty option to a floral dress, this seaside print will work all summer long. Wear it to the office with a cardigan, and for the weekend, add a belt and showcase the criss-cross back detail. **Banana Republic** Trina Turk Collection silk dress, \$160, [bananarepublic.ca](#)



SUNNY OUTLOOK

On the clock or off-duty, poppy sunglasses instantly update a neutral outfit. Our only rule? When choosing a candy-colour hue, stick to solid shades instead of a pattern to keep the look modern. **Chanel** metal sunglasses, \$430, [chanel.ca](#)



BOLD FACES

Colour-phobe? Instead of jumping into the deep end with a bright dress or trousers, test the waters with a neon watch. The look is sporty and oversized, but can be worn day or evening. **Nautica** resin strap watch, \$195, [sears.ca](#)



MULTI-TASKER

Floaty cover-up by day, light-as-air layer by night—a tribal print easily transitions from a laid-back look with denim cut-offs to a St. Tropez edge with a heeled wedge and slim cropped pants. **Diane Von Furstenberg** silk printed cover-up, \$295, [Holt Renfrew](#)



BITS OF BEADS

Ditch the plastic flip-flops for a neutral-coloured sandal with a little embellishment. We love the beading on this style that adds a little colour, but will still pair easily with the rest of your wardrobe. **B2** flat beaded sandal, \$98, [brownshoes.com](#)



Maria Menounos



BEAUTY

DO GLOW ON

Self-tanners for your face need to be easy to use and yield streak-free results

Get glowing, more even-looking skin, and minimize the appearance of dark circles, with any of these goof-proof tanners. You'll get away with less makeup, a big bonus when the humidity spikes. Don't forget your neck.



Lancôme Flash Bronzer Oil-Free Tinted Self-Tanning Face Lotion with Pure Vitamin E is a faux-tan favourite for its easy, quick-dry gel texture, light-reflecting finish, beach-vacay glow, and Vitamin E antioxidant boost. \$38, [lancome.ca](#)



Olay Total Effects 7-in-1 Anti-Aging Moisturizer plus Touch of Sun is a daily face cream with glycerin and squalane to soften, a hit of salicylic acid to smoothe, and a low dose of self-tanner for subtle colour. \$29, [well.ca](#)



Clarins Radiance-Plus Golden Glow Cream-Gel has legions of loyal fans thanks to its hydrating properties, vitamin complex and streak-free colour so gradual that even the fairest have nothing to fear. \$50, [thebay.com](#)



Rodial Brazilian Tan Face Tinted Self Tanning Gel gives skin instant glow while colour develops. The quick-dry, twice-weekly formula also ups hydration with hyaluronic acid, and helps tighten skin with an algae-based complex. \$45, [thebay.com](#) and [murale.ca](#)



Jergens Natural Glow Daily Facial Moisturizer changed the face (and body) of self-tanning with the first gradual-glow formula. This combines moisture-boosting ingredients and SPF 20 with subtle, believable colour that reaches full intensity in seven days. \$10, [drugstores](#)



Sisley Self Tanning Hydrating Facial Skin Care enhances with even colour that intensifies with each use, and conditions with glycerin, Phytosqualane and antioxidant-rich botanicals. \$145, [Holt Renfrew](#)

top trend KITHIT

THE CELEB LOOK WE LOVE THIS WEEK



COCO ROCHA'S PINK CURLS

A-list model Coco Rocha is not the first red-carpet personality to tint her tresses with a hit of pink. Trendsetters Lauren Conrad, Gwen Stefani, Nicki Minaj and Rihanna have all adopted a favourite fuchsia in years past. But we're taken by the dip-dye approach that Rocha sported for her appearance at last month's Metropolitan Museum Costume Institute Gala. By keeping the neon hue just to the bottom half of her auburn locks, Rocha managed a well-orchestrated beauty look that bridged kooky with classic—and cool.

THE KIT GIRL

NAME
SAMIRA MOHYEDDIN

CITY TORONTO

OCCUPATION
RESTAURATEUR

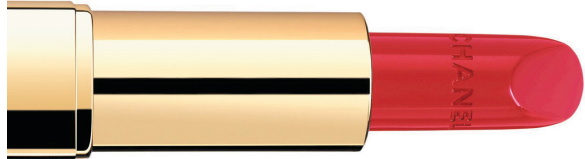
DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE
“Dapper, tailored, androgynous, minimalist.”

Owner and sometimes-chef at Banu, Samira Mohyeddin runs the Iranian Kabob Vodka Bar with her brother and sister (and steps in as chef there, too, when need be). She’s also an actor, journalist and published poet—a regular Renaissance woman. Pairing preppy with pretty, Mohyeddin marries her heritage with tomboy-minimalist tailoring for a cool androgynous look.

Growing up in North York, Mohyeddin looked to her mother for style inspiration and fashion tutelage. Her mother taught her about iconic French fashion designers and tailoring. And now, when it comes to choosing fashion items, Mohyeddin never strays from clean lines and classic style: while running errands and shopping, she opts for functional-fashionable daywear. On nights out, she sports suited separates that are inspired by the boys. Having a restaurant on Queen Street West also doesn’t hurt; fashion’s stylish set seems to inspire her by virtual osmosis.

BEAUTY SECRET

Chanel Rouge
Allure in Passion,
\$40, [chanel.ca](#)



WHAT IS SHE WEARING?

Shirt by Miu Miu, J Brand pants from Dutil Denim, brogues from I Miss You Vintage, Simon Carter watch. The gold bracelets were a gift from her grandmother when she was 12 years old.

tomboy chic

For this restaurateur, style comes easily. Keep it clean, tailored and listen to your mama

BY STEFANIA YARHI

TOP ACCESSORY

Church's Anna two-tone leather flats, \$355, [net-a-porter.com](#)



CLOSET STAPLES



Jil Sander
Leda stretch
cotton-blend
shirt, \$560,
[net-a-porter.com](#)

Marc by Marc Jacobs
Lil Ukita textured-
leather shoulder bag,
\$430, [net-a-porter.com](#). Marc by Marc
Jacobs accessories
also at Holt Renfrew



STYLE ROLE MODEL

“My mom Zarrin Mohyeddin.”



FAVOURITE DESIGNERS

Giorgio Armani, Céline by Phoebe Philo, Jil Sander, Yohji Yamamoto, Courrèges

THE KIT.CA



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Zac Posen
and Amanda
Heard
at the Met
Gala

KIT PICKS

It could be a celebrity look, a great sale or a gotta-have-it dress. Experts at [TheKit.ca](#) share their online fashion finds. Then, we take you right to the retail source, so you can make our picks part of your wardrobe.



Paris Spring 2012
Streetstyle

TRAWLING FOR TRENDS

Discover and shop for the season’s hottest looks in [trends](#) under the new Shop section at [TheKit.ca](#). We round up on-trend pieces at every price point, so if you see something you like, it’s yours in a matter of clicks.

IN OUR DIGITAL ISSUE



YOU'RE PHAT

The current issue of The Kit has summer shopping down pat—shoes, belts, bags, basics and more. Start shopping this season’s top trends now. [Visit TheKit.ca](#) and [click on The Kit Magazine](#). Subscribe for FREE!



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