

THE Kit

BEAUTY &
FASHION

SLAM PUNK

Accents with attitude are a surefire way to score style points

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GOOD TIMES

Jeanne Beker's personal definition of luxury might just surprise you

PAGE 3

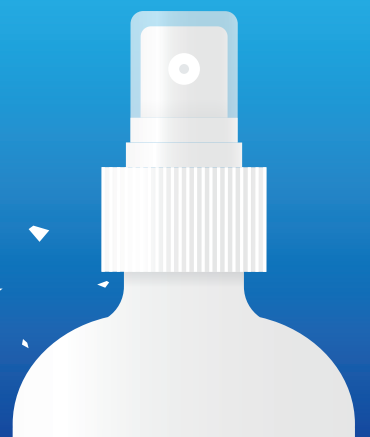
PACK A PUNCH

The new luxury is all about understated opulence, but, boy, does it make an impact. Here we deconstruct the wow factor

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY NATASHA V.

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what we want this week

PUNK PICKS

Studs, spikes, plaid—oh my! The 1970s subculture has taken the fall season by storm. So be daring and rock out with glamorous accessories that show your rebellious side



1. WATCH OUT Add edge to jeans and a tee or a slinky evening dress with a sharp timepiece. **Karl Lagerfeld** watch, \$415, at Hudson's Bay and thebay.com 2. PUCKER UP Contrast a punk-rock look with a vampy red pout. **Lancôme** L'Absolu Rouge in No. 132, \$35, at lancome.ca 3. TART(AN) IT UP Boost neutral outfits with poppy tweed and oh-so-luxe velvet. **Chanel** bag, \$3,300, at chanel.ca 4. NOT-SO-DAFT PUNK Stand out from

the crowd with preppy-meets-punk sneaks for a look that's less schoolgirl and more cool girl. **Dr. Martens** Alstud sneaker, \$120, at Dr. Martens stores and drmartens.com 5. THE DARK SIDE Provoke the senses with exotic flavours. This oriental floral mixes luscious red fruit and pink pepper with a sensual patchouli and amber base. **Gucci Guilty** Black pour Femme eau de toilette, \$93 (50 mL), at Holt Renfrew and sephora.ca

—NATASHA BRUNO/PHOTOGRAPHY BY ADRIAN ARMSTRONG



ASK JEANNE

Dear Jeanne, Luxury can describe what we buy—a vacation, a silk scarf, a gorgeous bag—but it can also describe a routine—long baths, vacations, great books. What is it for you? —Kelly

DEAR KELLY:

Luxury certainly means different things at different times in our lives. I think back to when I was a girl, growing up in the 1960s. In those days, my mom made most of my clothes. They were hip pieces, inspired by the wonderful fashion glossies we read.

The handmade confections were a world away from the high-end designer fare we lusted over, but to me, each garment was luxurious because it was a bona fide original: my homemade wardrobe afforded me a distinct personal style. That, to me, was true luxury.

These days, although I adore my material indulgences, one of my life's biggest luxuries is simply time, especially with a busy career and hectic lifestyle. Whether it's time at my farm or lunch with my mom, or even just a leisurely walk with my dog, I can always use more of it. And because time is precious, we really have to ensure we don't shortchange ourselves with obligations that don't bring us pleasure.

Still, we are living in a material world, and I'd be lying if I didn't admit that I do luxuriate in some of the fabulous things I'm lucky to own, like my cool Audi convertible, some of my to-die-for shoes or my fabulous Louise Kennedy bag, which I got on a recent trip to Dublin. Indeed, it's those stylish accoutrements that serve as touchstone reminders of how hard I've worked and how blessed I am to be able to afford such well-designed things. Perhaps that's key for me when it comes to material possessions: design excellence is one of the ultimate luxuries when there's so much sub-standard stuff coming at us.

Karl Lagerfeld once said, "Luxury is the case of a T-shirt in a very expensive dress." That, too, resonates with me. Comfort is taken to new heights when it's well thought out and elegant. It's like my über-high Louis Vuitton platform heels: I can wear them all day and night and feel perfectly comfortable.

I also must confide another big luxury: sufficient closet space! Thankfully, I do have many closets in my home for my treasured wardrobe stash. Call me territorial, but being able to lay claim to all those closets is certainly one of the precious few luxuries of living alone. Luckily, though, it's not a luxury I'm married to, and it's one I would gladly forfeit if the right style mate came along.

Send questions to askjeanne@thekit.ca. Jeanne Beker is a contributing editor to the *Toronto Star* and host of Fashion Television Channel. Follow on Twitter @Jeanne_Beker



CHANEL SPRING 2014



Hervé Léger to dress Barbie

Hervé Léger by Max Azria has joined Mattel to produce a limited-edition Barbie doll, launching Oct. 15. Wearing the label's signature bandage dress, the doll will be available at barbiecollector.com for \$150. If you've always wanted to be a "Barbie girl," (Halloween?) now's your chance: the design house will sell life-size versions of her fashions too. —Brooke Halnan



Brika at Hudson's Bay

Online lifestyle boutique Brika has taken up residence in a pop-up shop inside Hudson's Bay, Queen St., Toronto. Brika, which sells the stories of its artisans as well as their products, will stock items from over 30 Canadian makers, including everything from porcelain vases to maple cutting boards and hand-crafted jewellery. —Tarah Kennedy

radar

The style news that got us talking this week



ESTÉE LAUDER SKETCHES

Beauty redesigned

Uniforms have never looked so good! Nostalgic for days gone by, Estée Lauder has entrusted the designing duo behind Opening Ceremony, Carol Lim and Humberto Leon, to give its beauty-counter advisors a vintage-inspired work-wardrobe makeover. Made up of classic basics—navy peplum tops, pleated skirts, slim pants and white blouses—this fashionable uniform is as timeless as the beauty brand itself. —B.H.



Gossip Girl guru

Move over, Gwyneth, there's a new lifestyle guru in town! Mrs. Ryan Reynolds and *Gossip Girl* alumna Blake Lively plans to open her own company, giving her the chance to explore her other passions outside of acting. While she's mum on the details, she told vogue.co.uk that it'll focus on storytelling and living a unique, curated life. Here's hoping her brand will be a little less, er, goopy. —B.H.

BLAKE LIVELY

ON THE COVER

MODERN luxury

Once upon a time, opulence meant in-your-face bling. Not anymore: these latest offerings epitomize a new understated luxury. Rich with history, made with high-quality materials and meticulous craftsmanship, they're totally dreamy

BY VANESSA TAYLOR. PHOTOGRAPHY BY NATASHA V.

The Chanel Jacket

THE BACKSTORY: Setting out to create an alternative to the restrictive fashions of the 1950s, Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel designed a comfortable, functional leisure suit for women. The jacket skipped fussy details Chanel thought would restrict movement—stiff interfacing and shoulder pads—and featured pockets, something previously seen only in menswear.

THE NEW RELEASE: For Fall 2013, Chanel creative director Karl Lagerfeld celebrated confident, globe-trotting women; models marched on a runway revolving around a globe. (Even the buttons on this jacket are mini earths with metal continents and glitter enamel seas.) Lagerfeld wanted to "play with proportion," and this structured, high-collar and wide-sleeve jacket also works as a coat.

CHANEL JACKET, \$9,650. BOY BRACELET, \$2,425. ULTRA RING, PRICE ON REQUEST. ALL AT CHANEL BOUTIQUES

WHO KNEW?

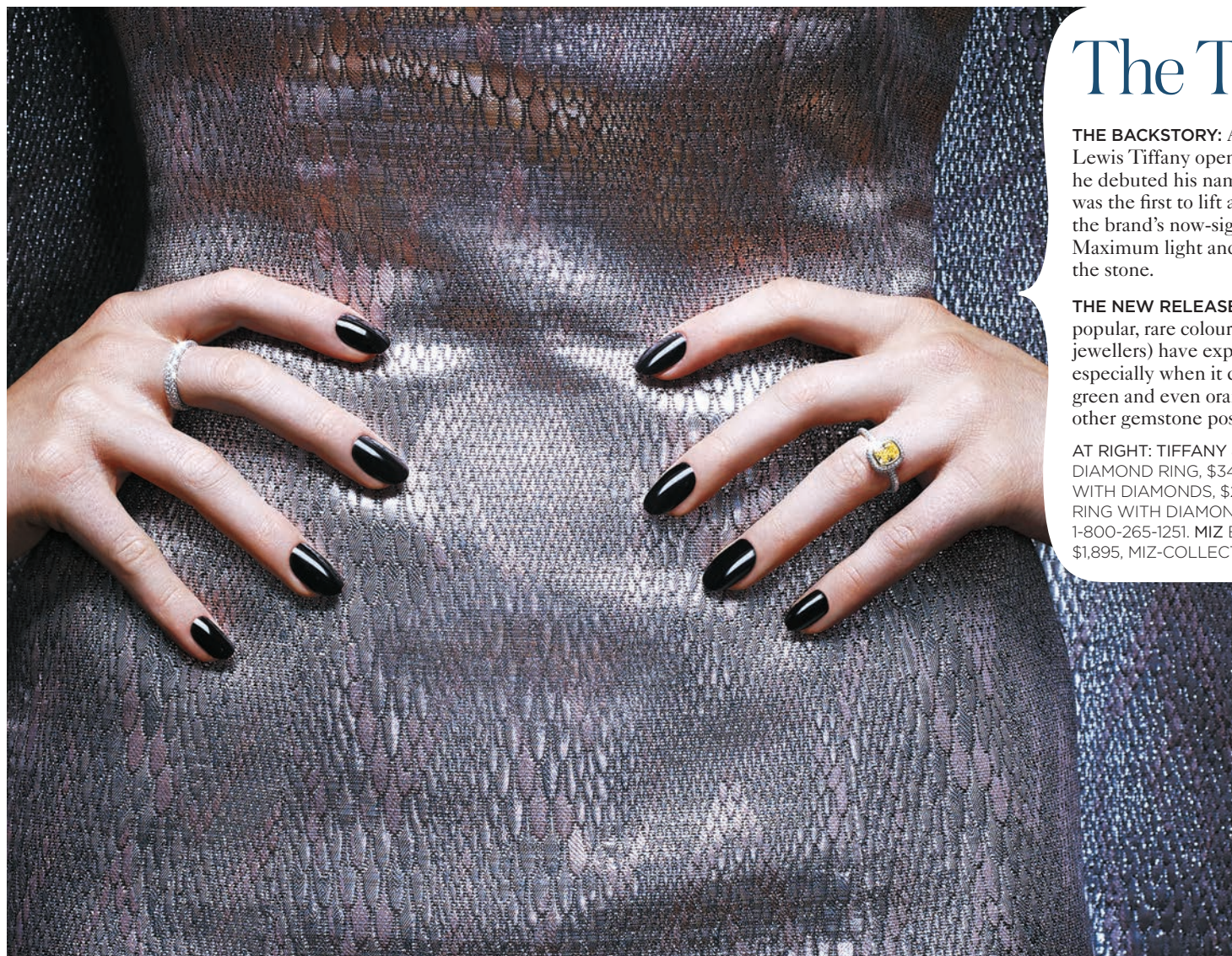
Each Chanel jacket has a small chain sewn into the hem that weighs down the garment and ensures it will hang correctly on the body.

**"SOME THINGS
NEVER GO OUT
OF FASHION
IN THE WORLD
OF FASHION:
JEANS, THE
WHITE SHIRT
AND THE
CHANEL JACKET."**

—KARL LAGERFELD



MAKEUP AND HAIR BY VANESSA JARMAN USING RIMMEL LONDON & TRESEMME HAIR CARE/PII/CA. MANICURE BY LEEANNE COLLEY FOR REV'LON/PII/CA. STYLING BY NATASHA BRUNO



The Tiffany Ring

THE BACKSTORY: Almost 50 years after Charles Lewis Tiffany opened his first store in New York City, he debuted his namesake setting. The Tiffany mount was the first to lift a diamond off the band, using the brand's now-signature six prongs. The result? Maximum light and brilliance—more sparkle!—from the stone.

THE NEW RELEASE: While classic diamonds remain popular, rare coloured diamonds ("fancy coloured" to jewellers) have experienced a growth in demand—especially when it comes to rings. Yellow, pink, blue, green and even orange diamonds have a vibrancy no other gemstone possesses.

AT RIGHT: TIFFANY & CO. FANCY INTENSE YELLOW DIAMOND RING, \$34,800. AT LEFT: METRO BAND RING WITH DIAMONDS, \$2,100. ETOILE THREE-ROW BAND RING WITH DIAMONDS, \$5,700. ALL AT TIFFANY & CO., 1-800-265-1251. MIZ BY IZZY CAMILLERI CAPE DRESS, \$1,895, MIZ-COLLECTION.COM

WHO KNEW?

Charles Lewis Tiffany purchased the largest yellow diamond in 1878 and had it cut into a 128.54-carat stone. It's now called the Tiffany Diamond.

Continued on page 6

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Modern Luxury continued from page 4



The Hermès Bag

THE BACKSTORY: Hermès dates back to 1837 and has a history creating traditional harnesses and saddles. Its coveted leather bags still boast the company's signature feature: painstakingly hand-sewn saddle-stitching. The thread used is mouline linen from France, which is coated in beeswax to waterproof and strengthen it.

THE NEW RELEASE: This season Hermès thinks beyond the Birkin, taking a cue from its luggage-making past. The Maxibox, touted as a suitcase-bag, is a roomy tote perfect for overnight, or hold all your shopping splurges. Designed to resemble a classic travelling trunk, it has reinforced corners and a hand-stitched handle.

HERMÈS MAXIBOX BAG, \$11,445, AT HERMÈS TORONTO.
LIDA BADAY COAT, \$1,040, AT THE ROOM AT HUDSON'S BAY

The Manolo Stiletto

THE BACKSTORY: As a set designer in Paris, Manolo Blahnik showed his sketches to *Vogue* editor Diana Vreeland, who encouraged him to focus his talents on shoes. Three years later, in 1973, Blahnik opened a shop in London. His commitment to timeless style has earned him prestigious awards and a lengthy list of devotees.

THE NEW RELEASE: Blahnik refuses to alter his aesthetic for flavour-of-the-month style. "I've always believed when a woman spends her money on a pair of my shoes they should be classic enough to wear for many seasons," he says. His shoes are renowned for comfort. The secret? "The balance of the ball and the heel of the shoe hitting the ground at the same time."

MANOLO BLAHNIK PUMPS, \$795, AT HOLT RENFREW.
DENNIS MEROTTO PANTS, \$550, DENNISMEROTTO.COM



"I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED WHEN A WOMAN SPENDS HER MONEY ON A PAIR OF MY SHOES THEY SHOULD BE CLASSIC ENOUGH TO WEAR FOR MANY SEASONS."

—MANOLO BLAHNIK



The Dior Timepiece

THE BACKSTORY: The House of Dior has a legendary couture following and added timepieces to its collection in the 1970s. Instead of taking inspiration from classical watches, Dior has become well known for a creative approach influenced by its ready-to-wear collections.

THE NEW RELEASE: Blending elegant Parisian style with Swiss watchmaking expertise has pushed Dior timepieces to the forefront of innovation. This La Mini D de Dior watch has a super-soft, slim, neon leather band that holds a discreet black mother-of-pearl face encircled by diamonds.

LA MINI D DE DIOR WATCH, \$4,700, AT MAISON BIRKS. VALENTINO DRESS, \$2,650, AT HOLT RENFREW

the UPGRADE

High-end designers aren't alone—these mainstream brands have created their own luxury lines —BROOKE HALNAN

Club Monaco

CALLED: Club Monaco Collection
MANDATE: We thought it couldn't get finer, but Club Monaco's elite line ups the ante.

Its high-fashion pieces are made from the highest quality materials. YENNA ITALIAN SHEARLING JACKET, \$1,500, CLUBMONACO.CA



J. Crew

CALLED: J. Crew Collection
MANDATE: The influences are as exotic as the fabrics in J. Crew's upmarket line. "During a trip to Marrakesh last fall I was so inspired... We took lush fabric textures and intricate beading and applied them to our idea of classic American sportswear," says Tom Mora, head of women's design. PRINTED CALF-HAIR SKIRT, \$1,950, JCREW.COM

Diesel

CALLED: Diesel Black Gold
MANDATE: The name Black Gold refers to crude oil, a rarer fuel than Diesel, explains Canadian PR Manager Christina Krcerinac. "It's our most precious line," she says. Edgy gets a touch of elegance with rich fabrics and finishes—it's attitude worth paying for.

LUNRAY JACKET, \$1,470, DIESELBLACKGOLD.COM



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TWINKLING TWEEZERS

Tweezers? As a One-Minute Miracle? Why yes. These bedazzled babies grasp hairs firmly without cutting, making it easier to tackle pesky follicles. They also come with a stunning matching stand, which means you'll save time locating them. (They're way too nice to rummage in your handbag for!)

—ALEX LAWS

Tweezerman Luxe Edition Crystal slant tweezers and stand, \$200, at Holt Renfrew

THE KIT on instagram

Get your behind-the-scenes fix at instagram.com/the_kit. Catch candid photo-shoot outtakes, in-office antics, events, and more!



WINDOW DRESSING
Editor in-chief Christine Loureiro was invited to help decorate a Mendocino window in T.O. (She did the mannequin on the right!)

For your chance to win a taste of Mendocino, check out thekit.ca/contests/mendocinogiveaway



OUTFIT ENVY

TIP

A drop waist visually shortens the legs. Counter that effect by choosing a hemline that hits just above the knee.

Pippa Middleton

Showing off her playful side, she takes flight in a chic flapper-esque feathered frock

—NATASHA BRUNO

why we love it

BUILT-IN BLING

The crystal-embellished decorative sparkle replaces the need for a necklace, allowing Middleton's dress to do the talking. And the low-cut neckline shows off her décolletage.

DROP IT LIKE IT'S HOT

A 1920s-inspired drop-waist silhouette pulls the eye down, creating the illusion of a longer torso—a great option for gals who are higher waisted.

HELLO, BIRDIE

The colourful plume skirt spices up a relaxed-fitting evening dress and keeps Middleton's look both flirty and whimsical.

IN THE BAG

A go-with-anything neutral clutch lets this vibrant shift dress take centre stage.

PERFECT PUMPS

Single-sole pumps are a timeless closet staple and help to ground more fashion-forward looks like Middleton's theatrical frock.

THE COVETEUR WILL RETURN

Watch for The Coveteur's next notable celebrity in our next issue.



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Oscar

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