

# MR. Kit

## STYLE & GROOMING



**GIFT GUIDE**

### POP-WORTHY PRESENTS

*Father's Day gifts any guy will love*

*page 6*



**GROOMING**

### SHAVE FACE

*With barbershops springing up everywhere, spa days are no longer just for ladies*

*page 7*



**MONTH'S BEST**

### GOLF IN STYLE

*An innovative line of Canadian golf shoes is changing the game*

*page 3*

**DRESSING UP**

## A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME

*Doug Wallace test-drives anti-crush underwear and discovers real comfort starts in your top drawer*

My friends always tease me because they know I wear size large underwear, even though I'm a slight five foot nine. Don't get me wrong: It's because I want the waistband to be as loose and comfy as possible.

When it comes to men's unmentionables, where are we to turn in this age of slim-fit everything? What are we supposed to wear to sit in a movie theatre for two hours? Or on a plane for eight?

According to the editors of *Cosmopolitan*, boxers signify confidence. (And I read this in *Esquire*. No guff!) They don't, however, do much in the way of preventing the tackle from bunching. So I began this problem-solving test drive with a pair of colourful, "anatomically correct" briefs from Andrew Christian.

*Continued on page 6*



**TRENDING**

## MAN POWER

*Never mind boyfriend jeans, we're borrowing everything from bombers to blazers*

*page 6*



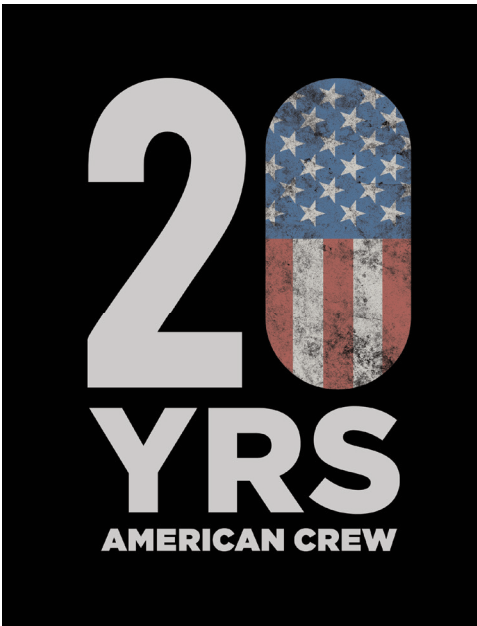
**FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL**

# SPORTING STYLE

*He's the right fielder for the Toronto Blue Jays, has hit more than 250 home runs and scores major points for presentation. But this Father's Day Jose Bautista talks about another position he plays with passion: dad*

*page 4*

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



# 20 YRS

AMERICAN CREW



**AMERICAN CREW**

Official Supplier to Men™

## ASK YOUR STYLIST FOR FATHER'S DAY GIFT SETS





**BOSS**  
HUGO BOSS



**MAN OF TODAY**

GERARD BUTLER FOR BOSS BOTTLED





MONTH'S BEST

# Pair for the course

It's not often that a business idea is hatched from forgetting your golf shoes, but that's exactly what happened one afternoon to Canadian Richard Buchanan. Deciding that he'd rather play in a pair of sandals than not play at all, Buchanan golfed one of the best rounds of his life that day in April 2013. "It was then I realized that it wasn't the big, heavy, overly supportive shoes that golfers wear that helped their game, it was the connection to the ground," he says.

Buchanan set out to simplify the classic golf shoe by removing the insole, liner, laces and even spikes on the bottom and created a new model out of a light material called EVA (ethylene vinyl acetate). Drawing inspiration from a classic brogue silhouette for its signature look, Biion Footwear was born in Collingwood, Ont. The shoes can be worn with or without socks and are washable, anti-microbial and odour-resistant, ideal for summer golfers. The name comes from the Greek philosopher Bion of Borysthenes and the Greek word *bios*, which means "life."

Today Buchanan sees customers buying multiple pairs—golfing looks are no longer just about a polo shirt and plaid shorts. "You'd be surprised how many conservative golfers who used to wear heavy leather shoes now wear Biion," says Buchanan, explaining that the bestsellers from the 50 colour and print options (from neons and flamingo prints to traditional navy and white styles) are the brights and patterns. "Golf fashion has changed drastically over the last couple years with so many great young golfers coming up the field who are very influential." While the shoes won't instantly turn you into a scratch golfer, you can look damn good while you try.

—Vanessa Taylor. Photography by Adrian Armstrong

BIION LUAU SHOE, \$136, BIIONFOOTWEAR.COM



TWEET OF THE WEEK

“Take it from me. Don’t lend your high-waisted shorts to Taylor Swift and expect to get them back.”

@StephenAtHome, Stephen Colbert, June 10, 2015

BEAUTY MATH

Sleek, peaked hair and hydrated skin add up to a look we love

A HYDRATING FACE GEL LIKE **VICHY HOMME IDEALIZER** MULTI-ACTION MOISTURIZER 3-DAY BEARD AND +, \$29, DRUGSTORES



+



=

A SHINE-ENHANCING HAIR LOTION LIKE **DAVINES** THIS IS A RELAXING MOISTURIZING FLUID, \$30, DAVINES.COM



Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton looked suave at the amfAR 22nd Cinema Against AIDS Gala in Cap d'Antibes, France, on May 21. Bring out healthy, bright skin by massaging in a soothing facial gel, and focus on stubble so that it becomes soft. Work in a prepping lotion to smooth out hair. Then blow-dry upward with a brush, rounding the tips back and set the look with hairspray. —Natasha Bruno

TALKING POINT



Richard Branson with son Sam, daughter-in-law Isabella and new granddaughter Eva-Deia.

## FATHER TIME

Great news for British dads: Virgin Group founder Richard Branson announced that some employees of the multi-faceted conglomerate will be eligible for one year of paid paternity leave at 100 per cent of their salary. "As a father and now a granddad to three wonderful grandchildren, I know how magical the first year of a child's life is," said Branson, in a company statement. The offer covers employees of Virgin Management (the company's investment and licensing arm), regardless of gender (they just need to have clocked four years at Virgin). Branson said the move was good for business, but we think it's good for everybody. Here's hoping this is an attitude and a policy that make their way across the pond.

—Veronica Saroli

ROBERTO CAVALLI SPRING 2015



VERSACE SPRING 2015



ONE TREND, TWO WAYS

## CATCH A WAVE

Embrace natural wavy and curly texture for an effortlessly cool summer look.

**1. Relaxed quiff at Roberto Cavalli**

For a modern spin on a 1950s classic, work a dime-sized amount of strong-hold pomade through wet hair before blow-drying the front part up and back in sections with a small round brush. Use rolling C-shaped movements with the brush when drying for loose, lifted waves.

**2. Super coil at Versace**

Take natural curls to the next level. Rub a loonie-sized blob of curl-enhancing gel through damp hair, starting at the ends and scrunching up toward the roots. To set the curls and add volume, flip your head upside down and dry hair with a diffuser. Finish the look by pulling bangs forward. —Natasha Bruno

JACK BLACK CLAY POMADE, \$25, HOLT RENFREW. **AVEDA** BE CURLY CURL ENHANCER, \$32, AVEDA.CA





**Christopher Bailey**  
The Brit's appointment last year as Burberry CEO really paid off: The company's new annual report says he made over \$15 million.

**Kate Hudson**  
The actor and Fabletics co-founder launched FL2, a men's activewear line fronted by her brother, Oliver Hudson.

**New York Fashion Week**  
The women's shows are down an auto sponsor, but Cadillac is backing the first-ever men's fashion week in July.

**J.Crew**  
Its CEO, Mickey Drexler, blamed the retailer's financial problems on the underperformance of its sweaters and knits.

**Reed Krakoff**  
After suspending operations of his eponymous label back in March, the designer is closing both his New York stores.





FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL

# A sharp right

When it comes to personal style, Blue Jay Jose Bautista always knocks it out of the park. Here, the superstar slugger talks to us about fearless fashion, good grooming and being a father of three

BY RYAN PORTER



On the field, Jose Bautista is best known as the Toronto Blue Jays' most reliable slugger: Last season the right fielder hit 35 home runs, the fifth most in the American League. He carries that confidence off the field, too, where he's known for style flourishes such as pocket squares, printed ties or show-stopping watches from his enviable 21-piece collection.

While a right-shoulder injury in late April cast a shadow over his 2015 season, the Dominican-Republic-born player never felt sorry for himself. "There are always different obstacles to overcome," Bautista said during a phone interview in late May. "This year, I've looked for a way to get past it and still be a contributor to the team, which is the most important thing to me every year."

Following this focus has served Bautista well thus far, taking him from his hometown of Santo Domingo to Chipola College in Florida, where he was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2000. Now, at 34, he is the father of three daughters with his partner of 11 years, Neisha Croyle; an active investor in companies ranging from Booster Juice to baseball-equipment brand Marucci Sports, where he sits on the board of directors; and the founder of the Bautista Family Education Fund, which sponsors aspiring baseball players' post-secondary education costs.

He's also a burgeoning fashion entrepreneur, launching the Joey Series denim line with Canadian label Silver Jeans Co. this July. In an exclusive interview with the *Kit*, Bautista talks about

**"Father's Day represents a day that you as a person sit back and look at all the things that you do as a father. You evaluate yourself and say, 'I've done well here; I can do better there.'"**

breaking out of his sartorial safe place, his flashy fashion dos and why his watch collection is so much more than just arm candy.

**Off the field, your look is always put-together without being over the top. What style advice would you give the regular guy?**

"I do like looking good and I do like showcasing my personality with my outfit. The first time you do something edgy is the most difficult, because you are worried about what people might do or say or think. The first time, do something bolder than you would ever do again. Then you get it past your psyche. I like playing with accessories—instead of going with a super-flashy flowered shirt, I would rather do something with my hair or watch or an accessory."

**Speaking of which, you have an extensive collection of luxury watches. What do you look for in a piece?**

"I said to myself when I started my collection, 'I am going to get most watches in limited editions to keep my collection unique.'

## PERFECTTIMING

Jose Bautista is serious about his watch collection. Here are three picks that score major points with him

- BB

**WALK: Apple Watch**  
"I like it. It's different. You can answer calls, texts, emails; you can look at your blood pressure; you can look at your heart rate. But I wouldn't change the look, the feel, the engineering of a handmade watch."  
\$1,300, [APPLE.COM/CA](#)
- R

**RUN: Hublot Oceanographic 4000**  
"Another one that sticks out is my carbon fibre diver Hublot. It is the only piece in carbon fibre that I own."  
\$18,500, [HUBLOT.COM](#)
- HR

**HOME RUN: Panerai Luminor Submerside Bronzo**  
"By far my favourite brand is Panerai. The Bronzo is one of my favourites. Because the outside material is bronze, it's going to change over time. That is the one watch that keeps me the most entertained out of my collection."  
\$37,500, [PANERAI.COM](#)



That gives them more value. I don't feel like I am necessarily just spending the money. I feel like it's an investment. It's as much of an investment into my wardrobe as it is a financial investment."

**Which other players have style that you admire?**

"Danny Valencia is pretty good. Jose Reyes is a good dresser. They both have different styles from me and different vibes. Jose Reyes, for example, can get away with wearing tighter clothes because he is skinnier than I am."

**What does your grooming regimen consist of?**

"I moisturize before I go to bed. I don't want to sound like I'm some sort of diva, but some things are just basic. You've got to keep balanced: Get to know your skin, look at yourself and feel your skin so you know when you are too oily or too dry."

**You have three daughters—Estela [4], Eva [2] and Emilia [1]. What does Father's Day mean for you?**

"It's one of those great days when your family takes time to make you feel a little bit more appreciated and loved because of all the sacrifices that you make for everybody. It also represents a day that you as a person sit back and look at all the things that you do as a father. You evaluate yourself and say, 'I've done well here; I can do better there.' Use that time to reset your approach to fatherhood. It's a good day! I get a couple presents out of it, so it's not bad at all."

## WINNING STYLE PLAYS

Great fashion moments courtesy of Bautista's @joeybats19 Instagram account

- 1. Playful pastels:** Bautista shows how much a pastel dress shirt and polka-dot tie can elevate a neutral suit at an HBO Latino event in April with 50 Cent and reggaeton singer Yandel.
- 2. Big red:** A blazer such as the marsala-red jacket from Toronto tailors Garrison
- Bespoke, which Bautista wore on the 2014 All-Star Game's red carpet, makes a statement without a busy shirt or flashy tie.
- 3. Well-groomed:** The look is all about tidy beards, big shades and patterned shirts in a selfie with Jose Reyes while en route to Minnesota.



## GAME FACEOFF

On the court or around the track, two star athletes discuss the daily-grooming demands of their sports

BY VERONICA SAROLI



KYLE LOWRY

**Point guard for the Toronto Raptors**

Twenty-nine-year-old Lowry is an actual All-Star (and not just to his three-year-old son, Karter). He competed in the 2015 All-Star Game as a starter and led the Raptors to this year's playoffs.



VASELINE INTENSIVE CARE COCOA RADIANT SMOOTHING BODY BUTTER, \$12, DRUGSTORES. DEGREE DRY SPRAY ANTIPERSPIRANT, \$5, DRUGSTORES

IN HIS KIT	
"I have my Degree dry antiperspirant because you've always got to be dry. You never know when your temperature is going to rise. I've got my Vaseline cocoa butter that I use on my body. I use my Dove soap—some of the girly stuff. Most guys love it."	"There are some creams and stuff that I use pretty often just to stay on top of the dirt, rubber or oils, all sorts of stuff from the car. You sit there with a sweaty helmet pressed against your face the whole day; you've got to make sure you're taking care of your skin."
BEARD STRATEGY	
"If you're playing well in the season, you keep going with [your facial hair]. If you're playing bad, you might change it up and let your hair grow. Routines and rituals are pretty different: In baseball they do playoff beards; in basketball you might let your hair grow for a while."	"I always make sure that my beard's not too short, because the helmet strap tends to rub a little bit, so you want it long enough that it's not going to get too red and irritated. I use a Braun beard trimmer for all the inches and everything. Keep it at about a 3 length."
EQUIPMENT	
"I go through around 30 or 40 different pairs of shoes in a season. Sometimes shoes and footwear break down a little bit because you're playing so hard and practising. I have six or seven pairs in my locker."	"Inside the car can get to 30, 35 degrees sometimes. You're wearing a three-layered suit of Nomex, another layer of Nomex, underwear underneath all of that, obviously a helmet on top, so it gets pretty warm."
POST-PERFORMANCE ROUTINE	
"Well, shoot, it's a lot drier up here. You've got to put a lot of moisturizer on. In Houston you were trying to keep the sweat from coming down, whereas here you can use more products."	"Hopefully you've got to shower the champagne off [after a race], but that's when you've had a good day."
WHAT TO AVOID	
"No chocolate. Unless it's Reese's."	
"As a racing driver you're a spokesperson for so many different companies and brands. Certain companies have rules against tattoos, for example, or they don't want you to have a scruffy beard. Some teams don't even allow facial hair because of sponsored commitment."	



JAMES HINCHCLIFFE


**IndyCar driver**

Hinchcliffe, who got his love of cars from his dad, won the Indy Grand Prix of New Orleans this year and fronted Spyder's Active Sports campaign. (He is currently on the mend after a serious accident during a practice run for the Indianapolis 500.)



BRAUN CRUZERS5 FACE SHAVERS, \$70, DRUGSTORES. NEUTROGENA MEN INVIGORATING FACE WASH, \$11, DRUGSTORES





# TODAY MARKS THE FIRST EVER #WINKDAY

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## WHO WILL YOU BE WINKING FOR?

Today is #WinkDay — a day to show your support for women suffering from the Cancer Blues. Here's how:

1. Make your eyes up blue — any shade will do!
2. Make a video showing us a wink, and inviting friends to do the same and “Wink If You’re With Us”
3. Hashtag it #WinkDay and post it to your favourite social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
4. Make sure you follow along. Re-post or re-tweet to keep the buzz building!

For every video or selfie posted, the Canadian beauty industry will contribute an additional \$5 to support the programs of Beauty Gives Back.\*

Find out more at [beautygivesback.ca](http://beautygivesback.ca)



BEAUTY GIVES BACK 

\*Up to \$25,000. Canadian Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association Foundation Registered Charity #12374 0316 RR0001 o/a Beauty Gives Back™





GIFT GUIDE

# Daddy cool

Pass on the cufflinks this Father’s Day and give him something he’ll use all weekend. We’ve rounded up the best off-duty items that will get him—and you—major kudos

BY VANESSA TAYLOR

**1. Game day**  
While these compression socks will improve his performance on the court—with the sweat-wicking fabric, supportive fit and impact cushioning—it’s their serious fashioning game that’ll score points.

**NIKE LEBRON HYPER ELITE CREW SOCKS**, \$22, SPORTCHEK.CA

**2. Papa wheelie**  
If the open road calls his name, these cycling glasses are the ultimate. The frames underwent 9,600 hours of testing and have small ports around the frame to enhance airflow, reduce fogging and provide an easy way to change the lenses.

**OAKLEY JAWBREAKER SUNGLASSES**, \$250, OAKLEY.COM

**3. Cool shirt, bro**  
Basic polo tee? Think again. This shirt’s “coldblack” technology helps reflect the sun’s heat and UV rays, resulting in a cooler garment—ideal for midday golf or tennis.

**UNDER ARMOUR COLDBLACK FORGED POLO**, \$80, UNDERARMOUR.COM

**4. Chairman of the board**  
Chances are if he’s a lake fanatic he’d love a stand-up paddle-

board (or SUP). This inflatable version comes with a high-pressure pump and rolls up into a backpack.

**NRS IMPERIAL 6 INFLATABLE STAND-UP PADDLE-BOARD**, \$1,045, MEC.CA

**5. Running club**  
If his weekends are spent running around, he might as well be wearing striking retro-style sneakers. The fabrics and colours of New Balance’s Made in UK collection pay tribute to the short form cricket match.

**NEW BALANCE SNEAKERS**, \$230, HARRYROSEN.COM

**6. Short story**  
Show off that Dad bod with slightly slimmer (and shorter) swim trunks this season. These ones easily double as shorts.

**RW&CO. TRUNKS**, \$50, RW-CO.COM

**7. Top it off**  
For the practical dad, this light, water-resistant coat is great for hiking and camping this summer (with four-way-stretch panels and reflective tape) and doubles as a casual city jacket.

**CANADA GOOSE BRACEBRIDGE JACKET**, \$395, CANADA-GOOSE.COM

TRENDING

# BEYOND BOYFRIEND JEANS

Women are starting to borrow more than loose-fit pants from the menswear department

BY VANESSA TAYLOR

“I love that shirt,” I tell my girlfriend, who’s sporting a perfectly slouchy button-up and slim ripped jeans at brunch. “Oh, it’s my husband’s,” she replies nonchalantly. She’s perfectly on trend: Having never considered the menswear section for anything other than oversized hoodies, this season I’ve noticed unisex offerings popping up everywhere. The Hermès Spring 2015 collection showcased loose, lightweight blazers and grandpa-style knit cardigans that looked straight out of the men’s department. Prada’s Fall 2015 menswear collection effortlessly mixed in pre-fall womenswear on the runway—virtually the whole line of boxy button-up shirts and lightweight mid-length coats could be worn by either sex. London department store Selfridges installed a unisex pop-up shop called Agender on three floors of its Oxford Street flagship in March, stocked with drapey pieces and sportswear from Rad Hourani, Comme des Garçons and Hood by Air. While I may not be ready to swap out my summer dresses completely, I’ll be sporting them with Oxfords and a bomber jacket this season.



## HIS AND HERS

These pieces might be found in the men’s section, but just as many women are buying (and wearing) them for their relaxed, easier-to-layer fit



**Sporty bomber**

Wear a sized-up baseball bomber over a dress—this is our favourite warm-weather topper.

**JOE FRESH BOMBER**, \$49, JOEFRESH.COM



**Schoolboy blazer**

If menswear sizing is too big for your petite frame, try this tailored, preppy boys’ jacket that has a legion of female fans for its clean styling and closer fit.

**BROOKS BROTHERS TWO-BUTTON JUNIOR BLAZER**, \$272, BROOKSBROTHERS.COM



**Chambray chemise**

Tucked in, untucked or half tucked—you can’t go wrong with an oversized denim button-up.

**LEVI’S WESTERN SHIRT**, \$68, LEVI.CA

TEST DRIVE

# MALE-MODEL MAKEOVER



On the (flat) heels of the unisex trend, fashion editor and bright-lipstick junkie Vanessa Taylor gets groomed like a guy

In the name of research, I go backstage at Toronto Men’s Fashion Week and ask the pros for the same hair, makeup and nails as the male models. Here’s what I learn about good grooming—for guys and girls.

**HAIR**

American Crew global “all star” hairstylist Matula Liounis gives me a refined pompadour for the transformation, teasing my hair at the crown and pulling it into a sleek bun. Explaining that one of the main concerns of men—and women—is thinning hair, she suggests matte styling products to give the illusion of fullness. My slick hair is pretty much the antithesis of what I would typically ask for at the salon; at this point, I’m not sold on my new look.

**NAILS**

“For men, it’s all about the details—shaping and filing the nails to create a refined look,” says John Nguyen, education ambassador for nail brand CND. He recommends short and square with a tiny bit of length, “so you don’t damage the skin underneath by cutting too short.”

**MAKEUP**

My final stop is an area I feel right at home in: makeup. “For the show, the look is clean and fresh—a little contouring around the cheekbones and jawline, concealer under the eyes and a hint of pink on the lips,” says makeup artist Tamar Cox. She applies BB cream with a brush, which offers coverage without the heavy look of foundation. For a sun-warmed glow, she smooths on a little non-shimmery bronzing powder mixed into moisturizer, and she tames brows with a clean mascara wand also dipped in moisturizer. “And you’re done,” she declares. Wait, no mascara? Eyeliner? This is going to take some getting used to.

**THE VERDICT**

I gaze at my newly styled self—my cheekbones create a dramatic focal point with the contouring and stand out because of the lack of eye makeup. My slicked hair stays perfectly in place. But as I’m leaving, Nguyen reads my mind. “Now that you’re done your story, why don’t I quickly paint your nails?” I leave with neon pink lacquer that delights me—clearly, I’m not ready to be one of the boys just yet.



# CARE PACKAGE

Continued from cover

The website description boasts Show-It Technology, which features a hidden “comfy cup” for maximum frontal support. Bye-bye, batwings, I thought—and I was right. A horseshoe-shaped inner liner gives everything a bit of a boost, so a day of sitting and standing (pretty much every day) was free of any adjusting, pulling and squirming. I didn’t want to take this underwear off. The enhancement part of the product design was merely icing on the cake. (“Adds up to 3.8 cm.” Like, how do they measure this?) Next up was Canadian brand Saxx out of Vancouver, available online and at Harry Rosen. Mostly it’s the same idea construction-wise, made with an “ergonomic comfort pouch,” but minus the pushy-outy part. These made me feel kind of posh due to the moisture-wicking, super-soft viscose fabric. They

felt how I imagine expensive ladies’ underwear feels, though I’ve never worn a pair of those in my life, thank you very much. I took the Saxx briefs for a run, and now they are in maximum rotation with my sports stuff. The wittiness of the brand name didn’t dawn on me until weeks later, when it was

“They felt how I imagine expensive ladies’ underwear feels, though I’ve never worn a pair of those in my life, thank you very much.”

pointed out by a British friend (figures). Moving on, I discovered total brilliance in the form of the new Lululemon ABC pants. The name, blessedly, stands for “anti-ball crushing.” The trick is a diamond-shaped panel at the crotch that allows for greater movement, and Warpstreme fabric that lends a four-way stretch. Presto! Chairs that were normally unfriendly suddenly weren’t. Bike rides were much more comfortable. Another nice thing about these pants is that you can wear them

to work, to a barbecue, to yoga or to the pub. I even tried them with a blazer on a night out. I think I now know why the phenomenon of “manspreading”—taking up too much space with your legs on public benches and subway seats—actually exists: These unhappy guys are just not wearing the right gear.

**SAXX VIBE BOXER BRIEFS**, \$32-\$33, HARRYROSEN.COM





GROOMING

# WET SHAVE 2.0

Exploring the new range of souped-up barbershop offerings at gentlemen's ground zero (London, England) and here on home turf

BY NICK AVELING

Until very recently, the question wasn't whether to grow facial hair, it was how much. In 2015, you can keep your beard close, pretend you're a lumberjack or get downright prehistoric—and get away with it in most situations. Just ask Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Daniel Norris, who earlier this year tweeted a photo in all his woodsy glory that, while not quite breaking the internet, certainly made a significant dent. But just when we'd all forgotten men actually have faces, "peak beard" has been declared and a new twist on an old grooming ritual has emerged from across the pond. Axes and pointy sticks down, lads: The wet shave 2.0 is here.

Blades and men's necks have a long and varied history, of course, but rarely has the combination been adapted in so many ways. In London, England, where wet shaves verge on heritage-listed, an arms race among barbers devising ever more elaborate services has opened up a new, resolutely un-metro frontier in male pampering. (The rock a billy switchblade barber in Soho, for example.) And boy, are men responding.

"Wet shaves are immensely popular for gentlemen wanting a relaxing 45 minutes," says Daniel Davies, manager of Pall Mall Barbers, a growing chain with locations in some of the city's poshest 'hoods. "After last year's beard boom, the clean shave is on its way to usurping the beard in London."

Back in the colonies, Toronto author Allan Peterkin sees the onset of a similar trend. "The straight-razor shave has always been on offer, but younger men are definitely becoming devotees," says Peterkin, who literally wrote the book on beards (2002's *One Thousand Beards: A Cultural History of Facial Hair*, now in its third printing). "Here in Toronto, you're increasingly seeing high-end department stores, hip barbershops and spas for men offering straight-razor shaves because there's a market."

Shedding season is upon us. To prepare, we scouted three takes on the wet shave for Canadian werewolves in London—haughty, hipster and high street—and their Canuck equivalents. Here's what we found.



## FOR THE ROYAL TREATMENT

### In London: Pall Mall Barbers

A stone's throw from Buckingham Palace, Pall Mall Barbers resides at the very seat of the British establishment. Fitting, then, that this 119-year-old barbershop provides the royal treatment. Bookended by hot towels, a clove-sandalwood scrub prepares your skin for the blade, which goes first with the grain, then against it. Next a moisturizing balm, then a cold towel to seal your pores.

THE LUXURY WET SHAVE, \$86, PALLMALLBARBERS.COM

### In Canada: Regal Barbers, Vancouver

In the westernmost corner of the empire, Vancouver's Regal Barbers offers the Straight-Razor Shave, with all the pomp and circumstance the shop's name would suggest. Sign up to the newly launched Regal Club for unlimited hot shaves, stiff drinks and precision cuts. Because nothing screams upper crust like joining a club.

THE STRAIGHT-RAZOR SHAVE, \$33, REGALBARBERS.COM



## FOR THE ALT-BARBERSHOP EXPERIENCE

### In London: The Nomad Barber

Before opening shop last fall in East London, the Nomad Barber (a.k.a. Miguel Gutierrez) spent a year cutting hair on five continents and perfecting a global variety of shaves. London's most eclectic grooming experience, the Indian Cosmic Shave begins with the usual balms and hot towels, then gets far out when Gutierrez gives us an Ayurvedic-oil head massage straight from the subcontinent.

THE COSMIC SHAVE, \$61, THENOMADBARBER.COM

### In Canada: Rod, Gun & Barbers, Toronto

Sometimes the quickest route to nirvana is a glass of bourbon and a fine Cuban cigar. Toronto's fully licensed Rod, Gun & Barbers offers both, along with darts, draft beer, hunting and fishing licences (soon) and, of course, immaculate wet shaves. "Honey, I'm going for a haircut, I'll be back in three hours," says RG&B's website. Better make it four.

WET SHAVE, \$30, RODGUNANDBARBERS.COM



## FOR SHAVING WHILE YOU SHOP

### In London: Ted Baker

Ted Baker is quintessentially British, but the brand's foray into grooming and most of its barbers are unmistakably Turkish. That means expertise in intimidating touches like eyebrow threading and, for the ear-sute gentleman, singeing the hairs that sprout from your lobes with a naked flame. Complimentary cocktails settle the nerves, and a masseuse-grade arm-and-finger massage closes out the treatment.

TED'S ONE & ONLY SHAVE, \$36, TEDSGROOMINGROOM.COM

### In Canada: Frank & Oak's menswear stores, Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa

Frank & Oak started life as an aching cool e-start-up before branching into pop-ups and, finally, permanent stores. While it hasn't achieved high-street dominance yet, in-store barbers offering expert shaves at the Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa locations are sure helping it get there. One-stop shopping, meet one-stop cropping.

RASAGE À L'AME, \$24-\$30 (DEPENDING ON LOCATION), FRANKANDOAK.COM



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