

HOW TO SHOP FOR THE SEASON BY ROOPAL PATEL

As the senior vice president and fashion director of Saks Fifth Avenue in New York, ROOPAL PATEL is surrounded by beautiful designs. So how does she choose her key pieces for the new season? By MALIKA DALAMAL

EXPERT



ROOPAL PATEL

"After previewing the collections, I always leave with a few favourite pieces on my list that I know I need to have. I work with personal shoppers in advance to make sure they're on hold when they arrive at the store. Other times, I'll be spontaneous and find a must-have for my wardrobe while browsing the stores."

FAUX FUR COAT
by Diane von Fürstenberg



POWER BAG
by Gucci



VELVET DRESS
by Jason Wu



"The most important thing to keep in mind when planning your wardrobe is to invest in styles that work for your lifestyle. My wardrobe is very much inspired by the runway but it's important to keep functionality in mind as well. These are my hit looks from the autumn/winter collections."

RAINBOW SEQUINNED DRESS
by Attico



POWER SUIT
by Gabriela Hearst



WHITE SHOES
by Dries Van Noten



STATEMENT COAT
by Gucci



CHIC BLAZER
by Dries Van Noten



SHOES WITH FEATHER DETAILING
by Prada



SLOUCHY BOOTS
by Saint Laurent



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STYLING THE DAY DRESS BY SALONI LODHA

The Hong Kong-based designer is known for her love of dresses. We got her to share tips on changing up the wardrobe staple. By MALIKA DALAMAL

"This season you'll find me in our new Leah dress. I'll be wearing it from day to night and when I travel, swapping heels for sneakers or sandals depending on the occasion," says Saloni Lodha.

EXPERT



SALONI LODHA

"Add red lipstick—it works just as well in the day as in the night"

"Dress it up with statement earrings"

"Cinch your waist with a belt for a smarter look"

"Prints are a great way to show your personality as colour makes everyone happy. And don't be scared to mix prints to make a bold statement."

Swap for a pair of sneakers or boots

BUYING A SWIMSUIT BY SHIVAN & NARRESH



Monokinis create the illusion of a fuller bust line

Design partners and architects of the Indian bikini movement, SHIVAN & NARRESH, have a remedy for every tricky swimwear situation. By AKANKSHA KAMATH

NOT BIKINI-BODY-READY?

"A bikini body is a state of mind," says Shivan Bhatiya. For those not so confident, he recommends the '50s-inspired, retro, high-waisted bikini. It does the job of a maillot, while fitting into the two-piece category.

TOP-HEAVY? OPT FOR HALTER TOPS

While being top-heavy has its perks, wearing a bandeau bikini is not one of them. "It calls attention to all the wrong places. Opt for a halter top instead," reiterates Narresh Kukreja. Monokinis and tankinis, on the other hand, create a trick-of-the-eye bust line for light-busted women.

PETITE? STAY AWAY FROM BOY SHORTS

"It cuts the body in two, giving the illusion of shorter legs while emphasising hips." Another warning: "Two words: cycling shorts," says Kukreja. Unless you're an Olympic swimmer, you shouldn't be caught dead in them.

SPILLING OVER?

You know that awkward moment when you have a muffin top, all thanks to your bikini bottom, and you could swear it wasn't there before? Bhatiya has an extra-special trick: "Always opt for one size smaller. Against everything your instinct tells you about clothes that fit snugger than they should, a size

NEED MORE COVERAGE?

"In addition to fringed kafsuits (kaftan-inspired swimsuits), capes, palazzo and silk shorts, a pareo or sarong has to be the most versatile garment for a beach vacation," says Bhatiya. ■

smaller will help hold the cellulite and the fabric will expand in the water to fit you just right."



High-waisted bikinis flatter an hourglass figure

PHOTO: MATTEO BERTOLIO; HEADLINE: STYLIST ANDREA FIORE; HAIR AND MAKEUP: MINMO D'AMAGGIO/FREELANCER; ARTIST: ZHENYA KATAVAI/WOMEN MANAGEMENT; ASSISTANT STYLIST: FRANCESCA PIOVANO; COTTON SHIRT, TUBE SKIRT, BELT: ALL STELLA; JEAN, TURBAN, NECKLACE: BOTH MANGO; SUEDE SANDALS: APOLOGIE