

# Apparel Versus Fashion

**W**HAT IS THE DIFFERENCE between apparel and fashion? Fashion is constantly changing. It is a trend that is here today and gone tomorrow. It is edgy and often expensive. Although currently trending, it has already reached its peak—yesterday. Some fashion becomes apparel. However, apparel and fashion are different. Apparel is everyday attire without the edginess and expensive price tag of fashion.



## Objective:



Differentiate between apparel and fashion and fashion trends.

## Key Terms:



A-line	crew	grunge	pleat
alternative	cuff	halter	pocket
apparel	culottes	Hawaiian	polo
artsy	dart	henley	preppy
avant-garde	dirndl	hipster	princess
ball gown	dolman	jabot	puffed
balloon	double-breasted	jewel	punk
bateau	dramatic	jumpsuit	raglan
bell-bottoms	dress shirt	kimono	retro
Bermuda	dropped waist	lapel	rocker
blouson	empire	leg of mutton	romantic
boat	exotic	leggings	ruff
Bohemian	fad	loafers	set-in
bolero	fashion	Mandarin	shawl
bomber jacket	fashion cycle	mermaid	sheath
chemise	fashion swing	neckline	shift
chesterfield	flared	palazzo	shirtwaist
chic	forecasting	pea coat	silhouette
classic	glamorous	pencil	single-breasted
collar	gored	Peter Pan	sleeve
cowl	goth	placket	sophisticated

sport	tank	trumpet	urban
straight-legged	tapered	tunic	warm-up
style	tomboy	tuxedo collar	western
suggestive	trench coat	tuxedo jacket	wrap
sweetheart	trend	tuxedo shirt	

## Understanding Apparel and Fashion Trends

Apparel and fashion trends are constantly changing. Yet some styles remain classic, and vintage clothing may resurface with embellishments or other slight changes.

### APPAREL

**Apparel** is clothing or attire that serves a functional purpose or items worn on a day-to-day basis. In contrast, fashion is a popular style or practice of clothing, footwear, accessories, or other forms of adornment at a given time. For example, the following are differentiations between apparel and fashion:

#### ***Military***

A Kevlar vest is apparel rather than fashion. In addition, a helmet is apparel, not fashion. However, Haider Ackermann's utilitarian fatigues and Dolce and Gabbana's bejeweled military jackets are fashion.



#### ***Medical***

Scrubs are apparel, not fashion. However, a company by the name of Jaanuu is changing the look of the traditional scrubs to make them fashionable by adding bold prints, details, and other style elements. Medical scrub tops now include biker, asymmetrical, and peplum to give a new, edgier look to the original scrub apparel.

**FIGURE 1.** Apparel is functional, and fashion is stylish adornment. One image is a Kevlar bulletproof vest. The other one is a camouflage men's jacket. Which image is apparel? Which is fashion?

## Culinary

A chef's mandarin collar coat, checked pants, and toque are apparel, not fashion. In contrast, a silk mandarin collar jacket and silk pants are fashion and would typically not be worn in a commercial kitchen.

## Fitness

Yoga pants and Dri-Fit shirts are categorized as apparel because they are functional (serve a purpose). However, Christopher Kane High-Top sneakers, NikeLab x Riccardo Tisci printed tights, and Dolce & Gabbana's silk track pants can be categorized as fashion because they are currently trending designer items.

## SILHOUETTE

**Silhouette** is a fashion term for the outline or shape of a body or an outfit. Matching body type to a figure-enhancing silhouette is the task of a stylist. The major silhouette types are:

### A-line

**A-line** is a fitted upper bodice with a skirt that gently flares from waist to hemline.

### Balloon

**Balloon** is a fitted or loose upper bodice with a balloon shape at the hem that finishes above the knee. Balloon and bubble skirts fit similarly. [Best body type: Slim women wear this best, as the silhouette emphasizes volume.]

### Ball Gown

**Ball gown** is a fitted upper bodice that blossoms into a full skirt. [Best body type: It disguises large hips (pear shape body) and flatters hourglass shapes.]

### Empire

**Empire** is a fitted upper bodice with a waistline raised directly below the bust and skirt that flares loosely below. [Best body type: It emphasizes the bust and disguises the stomach area.]



FIGURE 2. Silhouette is a fashion term for the outline or shape of a body or an outfit.

## Mermaid

**Mermaid** is a fitted upper bodice to the knee with a skirt that flares to the hem; it is a fishtail dress. [Best body types: Tall, slim, and hourglass types are best.]

## Trumpet

**Trumpet** is a fitted upper bodice to mid-thigh where the skirt flares out. [Best body type: It accentuates the torso, hips, and legs. Therefore, pear, apple, and short body types should avoid this style.]

## Sheath

**Sheath** is a figure-hugging silhouette with a straight drape. [Best body type: Hourglass and less curvy body types are most appropriate.]

# TEXTILE STRUCTURES

Textile structures—necklines, collars, darts, pleats, sleeves, cuffs, and pockets—provide visual effect and shape to a garment by easing or adding fullness to specific areas that impact the silhouette.

## Neckline

A **neckline** is a style line positioned at the top edge of the garment and surrounds the neck. It is a shaping boundary that includes the following types: polo, jewel, scoop, boat or bateau, off-shoulder, one-shoulder, halter, V-neck, square, sweetheart, and keyhole.

## Collar

A **collar** is a band of fabric sewn to a shirt, coat, jacket, or dress to frame the neck. Three basic collar styles are band, high stand, and low stand. Classic collars are shirt, button-down, notched, convertible, and shawl.



FIGURE 3. A neckline is a style line positioned at the top edge of the garment and surrounds the neck. It is a shaping boundary that includes the following types: polo, jewel, scoop, boat or bateau, off-shoulder, one-shoulder, halter, V-neck, square, sweetheart, and keyhole.

A **lapel** is a flap of material just below the collar located at each side of a jacket or coat opening.

### **Dart**

A **dart** is a fold or folds in fabric sewn to a point to fit a garment at the bust, waist, or shoulder of tailored shirts, jackets, and dresses.

### **Pleat**

A **pleat** is one or more fold of fabric stitched to give an appearance of fullness to a garment. Types are accordion, bias, box, crystal, godet, inverted, and knife.

### **Sleeve**

A **sleeve** is a garment part that covers the arm or through which the arm passes. Sleeve pattern is a key element of fashion and includes bell, bishop, dolman, Juliet, kimono, lantern, leg of mutton, peasant, petal, puff, etc.

### **Pocket**

A **pocket** is a small bag fastened to or inserted in a garment. Pocket types are patch, bound, shirt, welt, post box, flap, fob, mechanic, utility, western, bucket, inset, cargo, ticket, etc. A **placket** is an opening or the flap of fabric in or on a garment that provides access to a pocket.

## **Cuff**

A **cuff** is the finished lower edge of a sleeve or pant turned back to show an ornamental border (may include trim, lace, etc.).

## **STYLE**

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**Style** is an individual's artistic approach to expressing himself or herself through what he or she wears. Style line categories that influence the silhouette include necklines, collars, seams, sleeves, cuffs, and pockets.

### **Necklines**

Necklines include bateau, cowl, crew, jewel, halter, and sweetheart.

#### **Bateau**

**Bateau** is a neckline that resembles a long, low craft resting on water. **Boat** is another name for a bateau neckline.

## Cowl

**Cowl** is a softly draped dress, blouse, or sweater neckline.

## Crew

**Crew** is a high and rounded neckline with a knit band.

## Jewel

**Jewel** is a high and rounded neckline.

## Halter

**Halter** is a drawstring or band that holds a sleeveless garment front in place at the neck, leaving the shoulders and back bare.

## Sweetheart

**Sweetheart** is low in the front center and forms a point similar to the shape of a heart.

## Collars

Collars include jabot, Mandarin, Peter Pan, ruff, shawl, and tuxedo collar.

### Jabot

**Jabot** is a small standing collar with lacy, ruffled, or pleated trims attached to the front.

### Mandarin

**Mandarin** is a stand-up collar.

### Peter Pan

**Peter Pan** is a small and flat collar with rounded outer corners.

### Ruff

**Ruff** is a small stand-up ruffled collar.

### Shawl

**Shawl** is a collar combined with a lapel; it is a continuation of the garment front seamed at the center back. A shawl collar may be high stand, low stand, or band type.

### Tuxedo Collar

A **tuxedo collar** is a collar that has turned down points and is worn with a bow tie and jacket.

## Sleeves

Sleeves include various types, such as set-in, one-piece styles, and raglan styles.

### Set-In

**Set-in** are sleeves that join the garment by armhole seam and circle the arm at the shoulder.

- ◆ **Leg of mutton** is a set-in sleeve with a full top gathered into the armhole. The sleeve fabric gradually tapers to sit snuggly at the wrist. This was a fashionable sleeve in the Victorian era.
- ◆ **Puffed** (sometimes baby doll) is a short, set-in sleeve gathered at the top and the bottom. Puffed sleeves are popular in children's clothes.

### One-Piece Styles

One-piece styles are:

- ◆ **Kimono** is a sleeve cut in one piece that includes the garment front and back. It is sewn together along the outer arm and underarm.
- ◆ **Dolman** is a variation of the kimono sleeve that narrows at the wrist and widens at the underarm.

### Raglan Styles

**Raglan** is a sleeve with a front and back diagonal seam that extends from the neckline to the underarm. Raglan sleeves join the bodice with a slightly curved seam.

## Dresses

Dresses are made in numerous styles to flatter different body types.

### One-Piece Styles

- ◆ **A-line** is a dress or skirt fitted at the hips that gradually flares to widen the hemline; it resembles the letter "A." The designer, Christian Dior, introduced the A-line style in 1955.
- ◆ **Princess** is a close-fitting dress with vertical seams that flares slightly at the hem.
- ◆ **Sheath** is a close-fitting dress shaped by darts.
- ◆ **Shift** is a loose-fitting dress that was popular in the 1920s. **Chemise** is another name for a shift.

### Bodice and Skirt Styles

Bodice and skirt styles are typically joined at, above, or below the natural waistline and include:

- ◆ **Blouson** is a dress that loosely flows at the waist.

- ◆ **Dropped waist** is a dress fitted below the natural waist.
- ◆ Empire is a high-waist dress fitted above the waist.
- ◆ **Shirtwaist** is a dress fitted at the natural waist.

## **Shirts**

Shirts range from dress to tank.

### **Dress Shirt**

**Dress shirt** is a classic collared and cuffed shirt usually worn with a suit and necktie.

### **Hawaiian**

**Hawaiian** is a sport shirt in bright tropical colors and floral prints with short, elbow, or long sleeves.

### **Henley**

**Henley** is a collarless pullover shirt with a placket and buttons. Originally, it was worn by crewing (rowing) teams in English regattas.

### **Polo**

**Polo** (golf or tennis) is a knit shirt with a collar, placket, buttons, and often a pocket.

### **Sport**

**Sport** is a casual shirt worn without a tie.

### **Tank**

**Tank** is a sleeveless top that originated from bathing suit designs.

### **Tunic**

**Tunic** is a loose-fitting, hip-length, or longer top.

### **Tuxedo Shirt**

A **tuxedo shirt** is a shirt with a pleated front and a small wing or banded collar.

## **Skirts**

Skirts come in straight, flared, and full.

### **Dirndl**

**Dirndl** is a straight skirt with extra fullness gathered at the waistline.

## Gored

**Gored** is a paneled skirt that fits at the waistline and flares to the hemline.

## Pencil

**Pencil** is a slim-fitting garment that falls to the knee or just below; it has a straight narrow cut similar to a pen or pencil.

## Wrap

**Wrap** is a full skirt that wraps around the body and fastens with buttons or ties at the waist.

## Pants

Pants include various styles to aid in lengthening, slimming, and more.

## Bell-Bottoms

**Bell-bottoms** are pants with widely flared legs from the knee to the hem.

## Bermuda

**Bermuda** is a type of long shorts that hem slightly above the knee.

## Culottes

**Culottes** are loose-fitting shorts that flare to resemble a skirt.

## Flared

**Flared** are pants that taper to the knee and then widen from knee to hem.

## Jumpsuit

A **jumpsuit** is a one-piece garment: bodice and pants.

## Leggings

**Leggings** are closely fitted, knit pants.



**FIGURE 4.** Basic skirt styles are straight, flared, and full. They include dirndl and pencil (straight), gored (flared), and wrap (full).

## Palazzo

**Palazzo** is a pair of extremely loose-fitted, wide-legged pants that flare from the waist.

## Straight-Legged

**Straight-legged** (stovepipe) are pants that are the same width from hip to hem.

## Tapered

**Tapered** are pants narrower at the hem than at the knee; they are also referred to as “skinny” pants.

## Warm-Up

**Warm-up** are knit pants with an elastic or drawstring waist and ribbing or elastic ankles.

## Jackets and Coats

Jackets and coats vary in cut and style.

### Single-Breasted

**Single-breasted** is a jacket with one row of buttons down the center front opening.

### Double-Breasted

**Double-breasted** is a jacket with a wide front overlap and two rows of buttons.

### Bolero

**Bolero** is a jacket that rests above or at the waistline, with or without collar, lapel, and sleeves. It is often worn open in front.

### Pea Coat

A **pea coat** is a short, hip-length, double-breasted coat of coarse wool. The pea coat was copied from the hip-length coats of sailors.

### Tuxedo Jacket

A **tuxedo jacket** is a semiformal dinner jacket with satin facings on the lapels and is usually black or white in color.

### Chesterfield

A **chesterfield** is an overcoat with simple vertical seams, no side-back piece, and a velvet collar. It is typically grey in color with black accents.

## Trench Coat

A **trench coat** is a water-repellant overcoat, often of heavy cotton gabardine drill, with straps on the shoulders and lower sleeves, deep pockets, and a belt.

## Current Trending Styles

Trending styles are those seen on runways, in movies, and on television, as well as in online and print magazines and catalogs. Fashions trending recently include sleeves; accents; shirts; jeans and pants; jackets and coats; skirts; pleats; shoes; patterns; dresses; and accessories.

### Sleeves

Leg of mutton and bell sleeves are trending. The bigger the poof of the sleeve, the better the appearance.

### Accents

Ruffles and frills add a soft and romantic appearance.

### Shirts

Oversized button-down shirts are currently paired with slim-fitting jeans or leggings.

### Jeans and Pants

Straight leg or “boyfriend” jeans are replacing skinny jeans, along with distressed or light-washed jeans that can be cuffed or rolled at the hems. Baggy trousers with a slouchy cut are currently trending on men’s fashion runways. “Baggy” is a throwback to trousers popular in the 1970s.

### Jackets and Coats

A **bomber jacket** is traditionally a short nylon jacket created for military pilots and lined with sheepskin. Bomber jackets are trending in silky or satin fabrics with sequin or embroidery for men’s and women’s fashion. Oversized coats with fur collars are trending, especially those used in a “layered look.”

### Skirts

Boldly colored and patterned pencil skirts are currently trending. They are straight, with a narrow cut that is feminine and flattering on most silhouettes and can be layered or paired nicely with a classic blouse and heels.



FIGURE 5. Fashion trends are introduced, mature, and decline. What are the current fashion trends in your community?

### Pleats

Pleated skirts and dresses are currently trending. They offer a soft, pretty silhouette.

### Shoes

**Loafers** are flat, stylish shoes trending on runways. They are a must-have shoe for men and women's wardrobes. Sneakers, specifically white, are also trending for men and women. They are currently being paired with midi-length dresses or skirts or jeans and a T-shirt. Over-the-knee boots and over-the-ankle boots in suede, leather, or velvet are trending. Ruffles or two-tone or multicolored looks are also boot trends.

### Patterns

Plaids, leopards, prints, and stripes are trending for men and women and make a bold statement.

### Dresses

Slip dresses in blacks, metallic, or with a pop of color are currently a feminine and body-hugging silhouette trend on runways.

### Accessories

Chunky crystal necklaces and chokers, clutch purses, and camera bags are trending in women's fashion. Messenger bags, sleek leather bags, and utility belts are currently trending in men's fashion.

## FASHION STYLE

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**Fashion** is a popular trend of a particular style or practice of clothing, footwear, accessories, or other forms of adornment at a given time. Change is a constant element of fashion: new styles, reinventing a classic, and styles popularized by celebrities and royalty.

### *Fashion Style Categories*

Clothing is created for different types of people, as one style does not suit all personality types and all body types. Some fashion style categories are alternative, artsy, Bohemian, chic, classic, dramatic, exotic, glamorous, goth, hipster, preppy, punk, rocker, romantic, sophisticated, suggestive, tomboy, urban, and Western.

#### Alternative

**Alternative** is a dark and edgy style typified by shabby and untidy, mismatched urban style originally from the streets of 1990s Seattle, WA. Layered shirts—an oversized flannel or plaid shirt—and distressed loose-fitted jeans or ripped tights complete the look. Another name for alternative is **grunge**. Now it is called “neo-grunge” (new grunge) or “glunge” (glamour plus

grunge), as it is considered to be more glamorous (shiny, sparkly, etc.) than the traditional look.

### Artsy

**Artsy** is a unique style built upon handcrafted clothing and accessories.

### Bohemian

**Bohemian** is an artistic and exotic fashion style often likened to a gypsy look that incorporates different patterns and textures. Ponchos, tie-dye fabrics, headscarves, and multiple necklaces or chains accessorize and complete the look.

### Chic

**Chic** is a timeless, smart, stylish, classic, and well-tailored style. It differs from pure fashion in that the person wears what looks best on him or her. This style follows fashion trends but with a critical eye.

### Classic

**Classic** is a traditional, comfortable, tailored, clean-cut, and elegant style.

### Dramatic

**Dramatic** is a glitzy, gaudy, and vibrant style that incorporates unusual prints and colors.

### Exotic

**Exotic** is a unique and unusual style that often references another part of the world. The style often includes ornate fabrics and finishes, patterns, textures, and prints.

### Glamorous

**Glamorous** is a subtle dramatic style that relies on rich fabrics and accessories. It is alluring yet refined. Diamond and gem accessories often accessorize the look.

### Goth

**Goth** is a darkly appealing, morbid sense of style typified by black clothing, black lips, black hair, dark eyeliner, and black fingernail polish.



FIGURE 6. What makes this outfit Bohemian style?



FIGURE 7. What makes this fashion goth style?

## Hipster

**Hipster** is a distinctively artistic and retro combination style typified by an outfit that includes a vintage T-shirt, tight jeans, and glasses. Men typically have a beard or an elaborate mustache.

## Preppy

**Preppy** is a simple, clean-cut, and polished style associated with private universities and high schools. Staple fashions of the preppy style are argyle sweaters, polo shirts with a popped collar, ballet flats, boat shoes or loafers, button-down shirts with a crew neck sweater, and chino or khaki pants.

## Punk

**Punk** is an edgy skater style with bold colors, leather and spandex fabrics, animal prints, graphic tees, and skinny jeans.

## Rocker

**Rocker** is a glitzy or a messy-and-worn style typified by vintage T-shirts, leather jackets, and leather pants or tight-fitting jeans.

## Romantic

**Romantic** is a soft and curvy style that includes soft floral fabrics, hearts, ruffles, and flounces. Soft, simple accessories (e.g., a locket necklace) finish the look.

## Sophisticated

**Sophisticated** is a style similar to classic style with more high-end, better quality, and more polished clothing and accessories.

## Suggestive

**Suggestive** is a racy style typified by bare skin, tightly fitted tops and bottoms, and accessories (e.g., stiletto shoes). This style is on a continuum from flirtatious to risqué.

## Tomboy

**Tomboy** (or unisex) is a simple and boyish style that includes graphic T-shirts, distressed shirts and jeans, and slightly baggy clothes.



FIGURE 8. What makes this dress romantic style?

### Urban

**Urban** is streetwear style that is at once multicultural, vintage, and retro. It is highly influenced by African-American Hip Hop and R&B music and California surf and skate culture. The reference to streetwear is because of designers looking to inner city streets to find original, edgy, trendy ideas. The difference between the runway and the sidewalk has blurred a bit in the past decade.

### Western

**Western** is informal style typical of the 19th century American West and Southwest cowboy and vaquero clothing. Flannel fabrics, denim jeans and jackets, fringe, leather belts with buckles, bolo ties, cowboy boots, and Stetson hats or sombreros are typical of western style. Western wear now includes stylized garments with topstitching, elaborate embroidery, and rhinestone decoration. A fashionable western shirt has the following elements:

- ◆ A stylized topstitched yoke on the front and the back
- ◆ Snap pockets
- ◆ A bandana or neckerchief
- ◆ Fringe
- ◆ Elaborate piping and embroidery (especially roses)

## INFLUENCES ON FASHION TRENDS

A **trend** is a fashion style popular at a specific point in time that gradually changes over an extended time. A fashion trend is a new and innovative way to provoke a style. A trend may include one or more of the following: color, fabrics, textures, materials, prints, graphics, accessories, footwear, or a particular style (e.g., classic, grunge, punk, or artsy).



FIGURE 9. In which decade were these disco fashions trending?

### Fad

A **fad** is a style popular for a short period of time that expresses personality and a sense of belonging with peers. Often, a fad is less expensive than a classic style; it is sometimes termed “fast fashion.” Some fads are a rediscovery of a trend by another generation. For example, now the 1960s, 70s, and 80s are being rediscovered in the following observable ways:

- ◆ Fluorescent colors
- ◆ Bangles and mood rings

- ◆ Platform, classic Air Jordan, and boat shoes
- ◆ Plaids and floral prints
- ◆ Slogan and vintage T-shirts

## Forecasting

**Forecasting** is the art of predicting new fashion trends and/or fads. Fashion comes and goes and typically fades more quickly than when it was introduced and became “mainstreamed.” Once a trend has mainstreamed, the fashion is no longer the “in” look, and it is quickly termed “outdated” or “out of fashion.” The fashion and/or fashion trend has completed a “fashion cycle” or a “fashion swing.”

## Fashion Cycle

A **fashion cycle** is the timeframe in which fashion goes in and out of style. A fashion trend eventually cycles out. First, the trend is introduced. Then it grows. Next, it mainstreams or matures. Finally, it quickly declines. Long-lived trends are called “classics,” and trends that quickly fade are called “fads.” The fashion cycle stages include:

- ◆ Stage 1: Introduction—A fashion trend is born when something is worn or seen for the first time on the runway or the red carpet. The latest designs are sold at limited locations at high prices.
- ◆ Stage 2: Growth—Interest builds in the trend, and customers accept and seek the item. Trending fashion is available at more locations. As a result, it sells at slightly lower prices.
- ◆ Stage 3: Maturity—The public wears the fashion, and the popularity of the trend reaches its peak. The item is produced in large quantities and sells at a reduced price.



## FURTHER EXPLORATION...

### ONLINE CONNECTION: Fashion Trends

When it comes to fashion, designers look to previous decades for inspiration. Whether it is the 1960s, 70s, 80s, or 90s, one of these decades is likely making its comeback on the runway at Fashion Week. According to *Marie Claire* magazine, recent spring fashion trends consisted of satin and chiffon slip dresses, gingham dresses, graphic stripes, bold colors, backpacks, and graphic bags all hinting to a retro 1990s vibe. See the following:

<http://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/>



A trend is a fashion style that is popular at a specific point in time and gradually changes over an extended time. Fashion trends are new and innovative ways to provoke a style.

- ◆ Stage 4: Decline—The trend fades, and the market is saturated (e.g., the public is no longer seeking the item). A trend's decline occurs at a much faster pace than its introduction. Sales fall, and/or prices are reduced.

## Fashion Swing

A **fashion swing** is the movement of a style from popular to out of style (a yo-yo effect). For example, skirts move from short to long to midi, and pant legs move from wide to narrow then back to wide leg. The swing can be tied to seasonal elements and/or to fashion trends.

## Rediscovered and Reinvented Trends

Fashion is in a constant state of being rediscovered and trending, again, with modern elements. For example, classic, avant-garde, and retro fashion is constantly rediscovered and reinvented.

### Classic

Classic, as mentioned previously, is a style that is in fashion for extended periods.

- ◆ Navy blue blazer jackets are classic. However, modern features are adjusted, such as buttons, length, and adornments (e.g., military epaulettes, cuffs, and pockets). The blazer is here to stay.
- ◆ Blue jeans and tailored shirts change slightly with each fashion trend, but the basic ideas are classic.
- ◆ Polo shirts, sweaters, and sweatshirts are “edited” to reflect modern elements and remain part of apparel and fashion options.

### Avant-Garde

**Avant-garde** is literally “ahead of fashion” or fashion that is daring and unconventional. Avant-garde trends include fashion garments, accessories, hair, makeup, shoes, etc.

### Retro

**Retro** is bringing back styles from an earlier era with a modern twist (e.g., “everything old is new again”). Today’s most influential decades are the 1950s, 60s, 70s, and 80s. Thrift stores and attics are popular sources to obtain a “retro” look inexpensively. For instance, updated versions of the following are popular:

- ◆ Twin sweater sets



**FIGURE 10.** Avant-garde is literally “ahead of fashion” or fashion that is daring and unconventional. Avant-garde trends include fashion garments, accessories, hair, makeup, shoes, etc.

- ◆ V-necklines
- ◆ Wrap dresses
- ◆ Sheath dresses
- ◆ Pointed-toe shoes

## Summary:



Apparel is functional, everyday clothing. It is the jeans and a T-shirt or leggings and a graphic T-shirt, for instance. Fashion is all making a bold statement. It is edgy, stylish, often expensive, and constantly changing. Trends from one season are often outdated by the next fashion season. Most people are not considered fashionable. However, styling yourself to suit your own taste is a way to be naturally fashionable. The trick is often finding a statement piece to pair with less trendy garments that make you instantly appear edgy and trendy.

## Checking Your Knowledge:



1. Differentiate between apparel and fashion.
2. List three examples of apparel. List three examples of fashion.
3. Describe mainstreaming. How does mainstreaming affect fashion trends?
4. Define classic style. Give an example of how classic style is made modern today.
5. Define retro style. Give an example of how retro style is made modern today.

## Expanding Your Knowledge:



How would you describe your sense of fashion? Are you trendy, edgy, and/or stylish? Learn more about your style by taking the “What’s Your Street Style?” fashion quiz at <http://www.popsugar.com/fashion/What-Your-Street-Style-34267183>. Review your results, and write a short description of your street style.

## Web Links:



### Habits of Highly Stylish People

<http://stylecaster.com/the-7-habits-of-highly-stylish-people/>

### Things Insanely Stylish People Do

<http://www.whowhatwear.com/style-tricks-stylish-people-savvy-kate-moss-olivia-palermo-2014/>

### American Fashion Through the Decades

<https://www.interexchange.org/articles/career-training-usa/2015/09/24/american-fashion-through-decades/>