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# Style

## Fashion Resolutions: Look Your Best in 2012



**Celia Leung**  
 Fashion Stylist

Whether you're the type to pile on jewelry or adhere to a minimalist approach, accessories are a simple and cheap way to spruce up your wardrobe as we transition into the next season. And as spotted on the runways for spring, there are plenty of accessory trends to fit every style.

The look was ladylike and demure on the pastel-shaded runway at Louis Vuitton. Dreamy lace outfits were accentuated with candy-coloured handbags and pointy mules in combinations of metallics and light hues. Easy to wear, a pale purse or oversized envelope clutch will brighten up any outfit without stealing too much focus from the rest of your ensemble.

As part of the 1920s throwback

*It's not your average schoolbag. Sporty backpacks were featured at Alexander Wang. Photo from: thefashionspot.com*



to the Great Gatsby trend emerging this year, art deco-inspired accessories are cropping up for spring. Seen on such runways as Milly and Alexander Wang, art deco fashions may be easier to incorporate through jewelry.

Look for embellished pieces that use geometric designs and patterns in bold colours. A bonus if they're oversized art deco earrings — you'll be getting two trends in one since ear accessories are in vogue for spring and have become the statement jewelry for the Chanel and Dolce & Gabbana shows.

For those wanting to take on a bolder style as the weather starts to warm up, look for accessories inspired by tribal prints and materials. Burberry sent their trench coat-clad models down the catwalk accessorized in tribal belts, heels, bags and hats. Over



*It was all about pastel bags and shoes at Louis Vuitton.*

*Photo from: thefashionspot.com*

### fashion closet

*Add a touch of elegance with this cream envelope clutch from Aldo.*

*Photo from: aldoshoes.com*



*Sparkle with retro glamour by wearing an art deco-inspired necklace.*

*Photo from: essie.com*



*With these platform pumps from Aldo, you'll be standing tall and trendy.*

*Photo from: aldoshoes.com*



*Flaunt that arm candy with this beaded tribal bracelet from Jewelmint.*

*Photo from: jewelmint.com*



Make a bold statement with oversized earrings, as seen at Dolce & Gabbana. Photo from: thefashionspot.com

at Michael Kors, the focus was all on safaris — his collection of earthy sandals strapped up the calf looked fit for an expedition in the wild. The key to a good tribal-inspired piece is multiple textures and vibrant patterns.

Look for accessories that incorporate wood or beads for that extra flair.

Tribal patterns translate well for nails too. Whether done by a professional or painted at home using a nail brush, tribal designs will be sure to attract attention to your fingertips. As for other nail trends, a lot of designers opted for neutrals on the runway such as nudes, French manicures and pale pinks. Retro neon shades are also hot for polishes: classic reds in the style of Mad Men, bright corals and Pantone's colour of the year, Tangerine Tango.

Another big theme for designers this spring is athleticism.



Functional and fashionable, the backpack is back.

Photo from: asos.com

Sporty ensembles graced the runway at Alexander Wang and Marc Jacobs, and along with that came the return of backpacks as accessories. This isn't a revival of the mini-backpack trend that was all the rage 15 years ago though (I still have a patent leather one in pristine condition stored away in my closet). The ones popping into stores for spring are larger and are fashioned in an assortment of colours, shapes and exotic skins. But for those who feel their knapsack days are over, another simple and fun way to sport the athletic trend is through brightly banded, rubber wristwatches.

If you're looking to buy an 'it' shoe, go for heels with a platform. We're not talking about platform boots typical of the Spice Girls, but something more understated. Look for vivid sandals or pumps with a slight platform.



Comfort won't be compromised too much in higher heels because of the heavier sole.

Accessories are a good starting point for experimentation with a trend or style not typically your norm. Don't be afraid to branch out but try not to incorporate too many trends into one outfit. It's also not necessary to dress in one trend from head-to-toe.

Sometimes it's more eye-catching if you're wearing a basic ensemble accessorized with one or two statement pieces. Most important of all is to have fun with it — a good accessory can take your outfit from drab to fab.

Celia Leung is editor of *Coco & Rico*, a Vancouver based magazine focusing on local fashion, beauty and arts. She writes monthly on style and fashion in *The Richmond Review*. Reach her at [contact@celialeung.ca](mailto:contact@celialeung.ca)

Spice up an outfit with tribal accessories, as seen at Burberry.

Photo from: thefashionspot.com

## must haves

Channel the look at Louis Vuitton with this metallic-heeled slingback from Zara.

Photo from: Zara.com



Go pale pink for spring with Essie's A Crewed Interest.

Photo from: essie.com



Go sporty with a bright, rubber timepiece.

Photo from: asos.com

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