

In Fashion: Fall shopping list

by Sharon_Mosley

As fall fashions trickle into stores, it's tempting to step out of the bikini for a moment and slip into a new season of clothes that are nothing like the shorts and swimsuits we've been wearing for the past few months. Instead, think ahead and think polished and put together.

FALL MUST-HAVE - The cropped jacket is one of fall's must-have items: shown here a black leather version by Philosophy di Alberta Ferretti at www.eluxury.com. CNS Photo courtesy of eLuxury. Here's a quick list to get you started - one item at a time:

The slim pant - This remains a big look but the wide-legged pant is newer. Even jeans get the fuller treatment. Pick the look that is best for you. If you really want a fresh take on pants this fall, try on a pair of high-waisted trousers.

The pencil skirt - Hems hover around the knee (minis are out). But these new narrow skirts are key to the bottom half of sweater dressing and suit jackets that have lots of fit and flair.

The cropped jacket - A key layering piece, the shorter jacket is a little fuller (many peplums out there) and a great way to top off longer blouses and knit tops. Fuller sleeves are fashion-forward.

The bracelet-sleeve blouse - There's a lot you can do with this one. With sleeves a little longer than normal, the below-the-elbow length works for a lot of women. It's a little dressier and it's a great way to add some bracelets or longer gloves.

Novelty knits - The chunky knit is a casual alternative to a structured jacket. In a long sweater vest or a ribbed turtleneck, the easygoing knits are one of your best bets this fall. The tunic sweater is another way to "cover up" and go longer on knits that layer over slimmer pants or skirts.

Curvy dresses - Think hourglass and then you've got the perfect little dress in a whole array of colors for fall. Dark jewel-tone satins are stunning. If you don't like the sleeveless dresses, opt for a knee-length jacket for extra coverage.

The color-statement coat - Another item that can really give your fall and winter wardrobe an instant kick. In a bright, bold color, these coats are all you need on many days to brighten up those neutral basics.

The embellished evening dress - If you have any special events ahead in the fall, it's never too early to start looking for that one dress that will steal the spotlight. Metallics are still popular this fall, and big jewels adorn collars and cuffs.

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