

# the A-Z of spring

FROM HITCHCOCK SUITS TO STRAWBERRY SUNDAES, OUR NEW SEASON IS MADE OF THIS, SAYS CLAIRE REES

**A** IS FOR A-LINE  
Looser fabrics replace fitted forms, racer backs and cut-out dresses, with the introduction of more laid-back silhouettes – clothes you can actually eat in. Hurrah! This loose-fitting dress is £135 by Mary Portas at House of Fraser.



**B** IS FOR BOWS  
One of our favourite, if not the most wearable, looks at LFW was Meadham Kirchoff – paying homage to Marie Antoinette in Wonderland. The pastels are safe enough, but we're waiting for a certain kind of couple to invite us to their wedding so we can arrive in a similar get-up.



**F** IS FOR FULL SKIRTS  
As seen at Dior, courtesy of new boss Raf Simons, harking back to the label's New Look days. Worn with a clean, fitted black vest, Coast's Rita skirt, £150, is a dead ringer.



**G** IS FOR GATSBY  
Baz Lurhman's vision of The Great Gatsby is finally due for release in May. Will it live up to hype? More to the point, will our wardrobes notice?



**D** IS FOR DELICIOUS  
Jo Malone's spring campaign Sugar & Spice perfectly matches fashion's sweetness and light mood. We love the limited-edition Elderflower and Gooseberry fragrance. There's also a Lemon Tart and Redcurrant and Cream.

**E** IS FOR EMERALD  
Pantone's colour of 2013 is "lively, radiant, lush – a colour of elegance and beauty that enhances our sense of well-being". These little moccasins by Boden are certainly cheering us up. They're £79.



**C** IS FOR COLOURED LEATHER  
On bomber jackets, work tops and pencil skirts. Preferably Lego-coloured. This Marks and Spencer beauty is £199.



**H** IS FOR HITCHCOCK  
After Sienna as Tippi and Anthony Hopkins as the infamous director on the big screen, our new wish look for work is Hitchcock blonde-favoured bouclé suiting. A skirt too prim? Wear your bouclé on a Badgley Mischka-style dress (pictured) or tweed trousers, just grazing the shin, as seen at Carven.



**I** IS FOR IRIDESCENCE  
Spring 2013 has a sheen, rather than a shine. Choose all-out bling as seen at Sass and Bide. Or pare it back with last season's still on-trend jacquard trousers and silk collars layered for a soft and shimmery, mermaid effect.



**J** IS FOR JOE'S  
It's 90 years since Swansea's institution Joe's ice cream opened its first parlour near Swansea's Mumbles Mile and now one's arrived in Cardiff. Here's to spooning sundaes, wearing our best 1950s-style dress. Find the new one in Roath.



**K** IS FOR KOHL  
Lashings of it, in the hottest eye colour of the season, turquoise – as seen on Emma Watson, above, for Lancôme's spring campaign. The Harry Potter actress is wearing the In Love shade, Jade Crush.

**L** IS FOR LEGEND  
London's V&A museum's David Bowie exhibition runs until July 28 and features original costumes from the man who quietly released a top 10 comeback single in January, and whose long-awaited album is out now.



**M** IS FOR MANGO  
Forget Miranda Kerr (or 'Miranda Meh' as we call her) for womenswear – male model Andrés Velencoso, above, is the new face of the brand's H.E. label. Recognise him? He's also Kylie's bloke.

**N** IS FOR NAVY  
Capes at Burberry; tile effect tube dresses at Chanel; bustier sun dresses at House of Holland. Navy's the new black. Again.

**O** IS FOR OIL  
More specifically, Baobab oil, the new buzz beauty ingredient for 2013 according to experts. It's meant to help skin against dehydration and comes from ancient trees that can live for up to 1,000 years.

**P** IS FOR PLASTIC  
Holly Fulton's sheer plastic, covered in photo-realistic roses, was a girlie girl's dream. Get the look by seeking out prints with a three-dimensional feel, in the absence of digging out the sewing kit yourself.

**Q** IS FOR QUIET  
Wild, colour clash print's not for everyone. And in certain fashion camps, the mood for spring is restrained, clean and laid-back. Perfect for the fuss-free shopper.

**R** IS FOR RUNNING  
Not that we plan on doing many laps, but this spring's jackets have a sporty edge, like the made-in-Britain ones at Christopher Raeburn. If people assume you're on the way to the gym, you're on the right track.

**S** IS FOR STRIPES  
The bigger the better. From Harlequin to candy, and Beetlejuice crazy at Acne. See our mono guide on page 35.





**T** IS FOR TUTU  
Dior's gorgeously-named new nail shade, from the Chérie Bow collection, is inspired by ballerinas and ticks the pale nail trend we've covered on page 67.

**U** IS FOR UNEXPECTED HAIR SHADES  
Forget last year's pastel pink – peaches, warm golds and even blues and greens will be order of the day

for the most brave fashionistas. Find out more on page 77. Make ours a baby blue rinse.



**X** IS FOR X FACTOR  
77% of British women admit to turning to the show for fashion inspiration. Eh?

Have they seen it? But please let rumours Kate Moss, below, is getting on board as a stylist, be true.

**Y** IS FOR YEE-HA  
Expect a revival of the cowboy boot thanks to brashy new series, Nashville. We're loving Hayden Panettiere, above, as the country music star absolutely not based on Taylor Swift. It's on More4 on Thursdays at 10pm.



**Z** IS FOR ZARA  
The high street brand has signed up to Greenpeace's Detox campaign – committing to eliminating releases of all hazardous chemicals throughout its supply chains and products. The campaign demands fashion brands commit to zero discharge of all hazardous chemicals by 2020. Good work.

**V** IS FOR VEGGIE  
Sixties, Mediterranean belted dresses will be a big hit as the sun comes out – think Sophia Loren in a Gucci ad. While most will be covered in florals, the edgier dresser will be using the chance to boost their five a day. This dress, above, is by Almost Famous at White Boutique, Narberth.

**W** IS FOR WHITE SHOES  
Shoes have gone more ladylike and a pointed court fits the new clean aesthetic, as seen here at Pringle. Extra points if they're white.

