

COATS

BARN JACKET

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: This collared coat is usually lined with fleece. It has a boxlike cut, button closure, and oversize front pockets near the bottom seam.

WHO MADE IT: This look is a riff on the old fishing jackets, called angler jackets, of the 1930s. In the past, the style featured more pockets — on the lower sleeves and breast — for fishermen to hold their gear. Today's barn jackets have the same boxy cut as the angler and still exude the laboring farmhand/fisherman vibe.

WHO MADE IT HOT: When Martha Stewart came onto the scene in the '80s, she not only showed Americans how to perfect homemaking, but also spread New England style — including her sensible barn jackets. J. Crew capitalized on the look, offering the style in its catalogs in the '90s and beyond.

HOW TO ROCK IT: This casual overcoat looks great with khakis and a cozy sweater underneath.



Barn Jacket

BLAZER

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: This jacket is similar to the **smoking jacket** in that it has a long lapel and button-front closure.

WHO MADE IT: Blazers became a part of the British navy uniform in 1837, when the captain of the HMS *Blazer* outfitted his crew in spiffy double-breasted jackets for a visit from Queen Victoria. The queen liked them so much, she had other sailors wear the same style. Like with the **pea coat** and, later, **bell-bottoms**, civilians borrowed this naval style. While yachting enthusiasts and collegiate crew team members may not have had the expertise to handle the rough waters like navy men, they could at least dress the part.

WHO MADE IT HOT: Shannon Doherty and Winona Ryder sported blazers at school, afternoon croquet games, and college parties in 1989's *Heathers*.

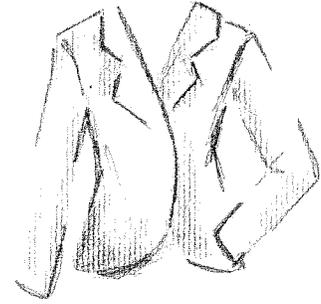


Blazer

HOW TO ROCK IT: Though blazers can feel a bit pretentious — think college professors and the yachting set — a cropped blazer in a laid-back fabric, like micro-corduroy, looks more relaxed. To complete the ensemble, pair it with **straight-legged jeans** and a flirty **tank**.

Dress for Success

In the 1970s and '80s, as more women joined corporate life, the ethos "dress for success" became pretty popular. During that time, many books came out telling readers that how one presented oneself would dictate how bosses and clients would see them — ideally authoritative, powerful, and impressive. Most popular was John T. Malloy's 1980s *Dress for Success* series, which included a book especially for women on how to dress for the office in "power suits": tailored skirts, jackets with shoulder pads, and conservative jewelry.



BOLERO

WHAT IT LOOKS

LIKE: This collarless jacket is cropped high, near the rib cage. It sometimes has a front tie or button closure, though generally it lies open and flat against the shirt.



WHO MADE IT: This type of jacket originated in Spain. For centuries, it's been worn as part of the matador's costume. In the 1940s, renowned Spanish-born and Paris-based designer Cristóbal Balenciaga famously incorporated his Spanish roots into his collections by creating intricate boleros for highbrow customers, as did Elsa Schiaparelli, who made a bolero jacket and crepe dress in 1938.

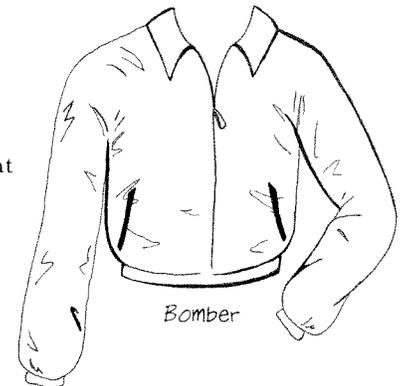
WHO MADE IT HOT: One of Princess Diana's most memorable ensembles was a velvet and ivory satin strapless gown and bolero jacket that she wore to a Paris banquet in 1988. When she auctioned it off in 1997, a year after her divorce

HOW TO ROCK IT: Try pairing a beaded bolero with **tuxedo pants** or a **sheath dress** for a fresh take on evening wear.

BOMBER

WHAT IT LOOKS

LIKE: This zip-front collared jacket has a puckered waistband and cuffs. It typically features diagonally cut flat-front pockets.



WHO MADE IT: The bomber style emerged from the jackets worn by US fighter pilots during WWII. Schott Bros., a New York-based outerwear company, designed a bomber in the 1930s, which the US air force ordered in bulk in WWII. The style has been a part of casual dress ever since.

WHO MADE IT HOT: Kelly McGillis and Tom Cruise inspired bomber mania in 1986 in *Top Gun*.

Timeless Textiles

Most overcoats come in solid, conservative colors, but here are a few patterns commonly found on classic cover-ups.

chevron stripe ● a V-shaped striped pattern similar to the kind found on the Chevron gas station logos.

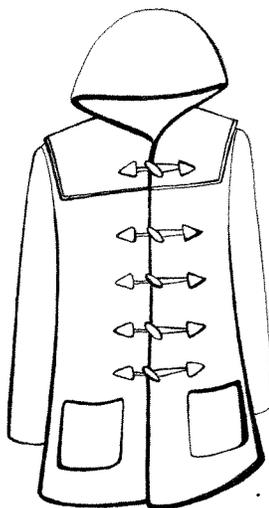
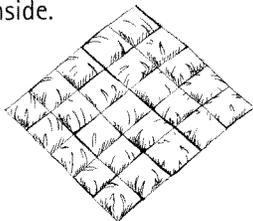


herringbone ● a twill weave that's broken, creating a V-shaped, zigzag pattern.



houndstooth ● a type of checked pattern.

quilted ● a diamond-patterned fabric with filling layers inside.



Duffle Coat

DUFFLE COAT

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE:

What makes this heavy, hooded overcoat most recognizable is its horn-and-toggle front closure.

It can be made car coat length (hitting the hip) or longer.

WHO MADE IT: The duffle was part of the British Royal Navy's uniform during WWI. By WWII, it became standard issue. After the war, Gloverall, a British outerwear company, purchased the surplus duffles. And when those sold out in 1954, the company began to make its own and continues to be a leading maker of duffle coats today.

WHO MADE IT HOT: Paddington Bear made the duffle world famous. Stars who have taken a cue from the cuddly London icon include Lily Allen and Gwyneth Paltrow.

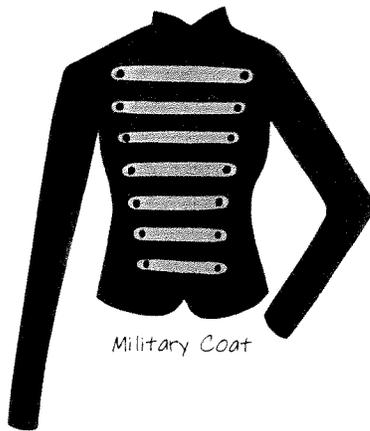
HOW TO ROCK IT: Pair it with a pleated **midi skirt** like Paltrow in the 2003 film *Sylvia* or layer it over scarves and cozy sweaters for a classic winter look.

MILITARY COAT

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: This coat features design elements borrowed from the uniforms of admirals and other military wear. A popular style (shown below) features repetitive horizontal lines flanked with buttons, embroidery, and a button-front closure. Some designs feature a cropped waistline, while others feature a hemline that falls closer to the knee.

WHO MADE IT:

As the name implies, military coats have their roots in military uniforms, with some dating back to the 17th century. Admirals of the day wore decorated knee-length coats—a look that Gwen Stefani's L.A.M.B. clothing label and Juicy Couture make today.



Military Coat

WHO MADE IT HOT: For their 1967 *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album, the Beatles wore satin military coats in red, chartreuse, blue, and pink that had been rented from a London costume shop. Jimi Hendrix, designer Karl Lagerfeld, and Stefani have also worked the military coat into their clothing lines.

HOW TO ROCK IT: Pay homage to the rock gods by wearing an unbuttoned military coat over a vintage rock T and

MOTORCYCLE JACKET

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: This leather zip-front jacket has a convertible collar, is cut straight, and has a built-in belt and buckle at the waistline for closure.

WHO MADE IT: Schott Bros. designed its first motorcycle jacket, the Perfecto, in 1928 with the input of bikers and distributed it through Harley-Davidson. But it wasn't until 1948 that biker culture really took off in mainstream America. After fighter pilots and bomber crews came home from WWII, many took to motorcycling to satisfy their need for speed. The leathers they wore to keep warm in the war became an essential second skin while riding.

WHO MADE IT HOT: Marlon Brando was the picture of hellraising biker in the 1953 film *The Wild One*. This look was considered so dangerous that motorcycle jackets were banned from some high schools at the time. Seventies punk princess Nancy Spungen, notorious girlfriend to the Sex Pistols' Sid Vicious, made her motorcycle jacket look even tougher by scrawling political statements on it and stapling studs on the collars and cuffs.

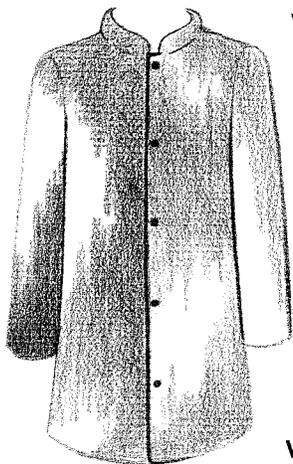


Motorcycle Jacket

HOW TO ROCK IT: One can never go wrong with the trusty combo of jeans, T-shirt, and motorcycle jacket, but for something unexpected, try pairing your leather with a strapless, 1950s debutante dress like rock 'n' roll heiress Kelly Osbourne.

NEHRU JACKET

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: This single-breasted jacket fits close to the body, has a button front, straight square cut, and 1 1/2-inch stand-up collar.



Nehru Jacket

WHO MADE IT: Designer Pierre Cardin returned from a trip to India and immediately dressed his store's salespeople in a gray flannel version of this traditional Indian jacket. In the early 2000s, Nehru jackets were designed for women, as well.

WHO MADE IT HOT: Jawaharlal Nehru, the prime minister of India

in the '60s, was shown in *Vogue* magazine wearing this jacket. Soon after, it became known as the "Nehru jacket" and hippies, the Beatles, and Johnny Carson were all wearing one.

HOW TO ROCK IT: The simple cut of the Nehru calls for no-nonsense straight-legged trousers.

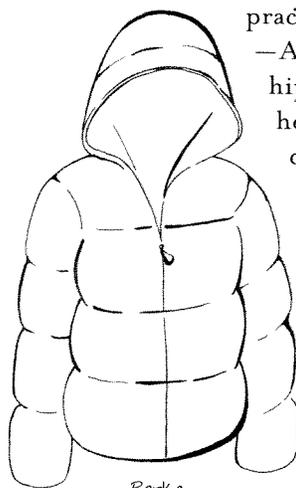
PARKA

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: The parka's length ranges from the waist to the knee. It is a heavy and hooded coat, and typically fur lined or filled with goose down. Some parkas are longer, with a pull cord that ties at the waist.

WHO MADE IT: The word *parka* comes from the 18th-century Russian term for *skin jacket* or *pelt*, but Inuit tribes have worn a sealskin version of this type of coat for centuries. The armed forces also put the parka to good use.

WHO MADE IT HOT: The Olympic skiers in 1932 made mainstream America hot for parkas.

More recently, hip-hoppers in the '90s practically made parkas their uniform — Aaliyah, Lil' Kim, and boys of hip-hop Biggie and Tupac all helped popularize bubble goose down parkas produced by companies like The North Face and Tommy Hilfiger.



Parka

HOW TO ROCK IT: With hoods and lots of volume, parkas are true coats of armor. They're the perfect coats to make you feel tough and protected at the same time.

High-Tech Fabrics

Gore-Tex ● a fabric invented in 1978 that contains a sealant of more than 9 billion tiny holes per square inch, which allows sweat to escape from the fabric while keeping water out.

Kevlar ● a strong, lightweight fiber created in the '70s by DuPont, Kevlar was first used in bullet-proof vests, and the material is now used by companies like Levi's and Timberland to create extra-strong jeans and outerwear.

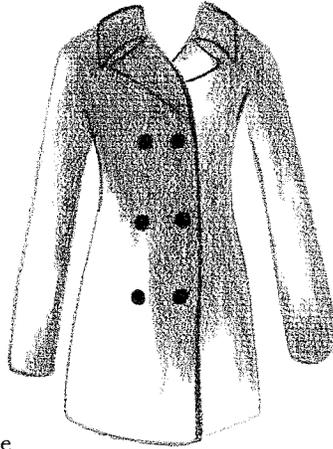
polar fleece ● a lightweight, synthetic fiber that traps body heat in while keeping moisture away from the skin. Polar fleece was developed in the early '80s by Patagonia, an outdoor clothier, and came into wide use in the 1990s.

spandex ● a man-made stretch material popular in the 1980s and '90s for leggings, bike shorts, bodysuits, and shapewear.

PEA COAT

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE:

This double-breasted coat typically has a wide lapel and large front buttons. Its name comes from the Dutch word *pij*, which means a rough, woolen fabric.



Pea Coat

WHO MADE IT: From the 1830s to WWII in the 1940s, sailors wore this style of coat as part of their uniforms. In 1962, Yves Saint Laurent redesigned the coat with flashy gold buttons for women.

WHO MADE IT HOT: French actress Catherine Deneuve, an Yves Saint Laurent muse, was an early adopter of the designer's pea coat, wearing hers with a striped **shift dress** and flats.

HOW TO ROCK IT: Pea coats look great over **stovepipes**, or slightly longer or same-length **A-line dresses**.

Be-Mused

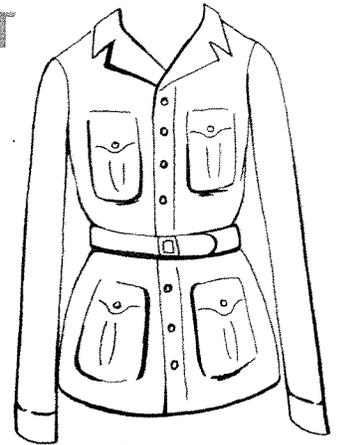
"Behind every great man is a great woman," the saying goes. And in the art world, you'll find a lot of truth to this. The world's most famous musicians, painters, and fashion designers have long looked to women as muses—beautiful, charismatic beings that inspire the artist to create. In the fashion world, designers depend on women with that certain *je ne se qua* to help flesh out ideas for collections, serve as nurturers and encouragers, and while out in public, embody the style the designer creates. After being adopted by an artist, a muse can serve as anything from a collaborator (like Yoko Ono was to John Lennon) to a party companion (like Edie Sedgwick was to Andy Warhol) to a walking billboard (as Isabella Blow was for hat maker Philip Treacy, always wearing his creations about town).

Of course, the notion of muses is nothing new—according to Greek mythology, civilization's original

SAFARI JACKET

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE:

The safari jacket is a belted, lightweight jacket usually made of chino or khaki twill. It features breast and lower front pockets.

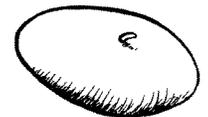


Safari Jacket

WHO MADE IT: Yves Saint Laurent was the first to put the safari jacket on the catwalk in a 1968 show. The camel-colored jacket, made of wool gabardine, was quite true to the safari jacket used by adventurers.

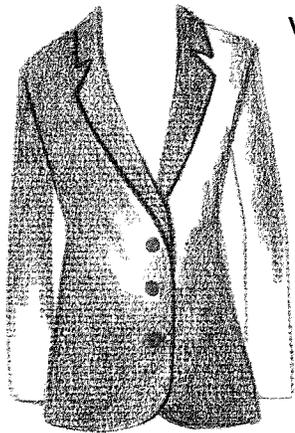
WHO MADE IT HOT: Dressed in a khaki skirt and a safari jacket, Meryl Streep made this style enviably cool in the 1985 film *Out of Africa*.

HOW TO ROCK IT: Simultaneously practical (with big pockets), natural (earth-tone coloring), and dangerous-feeling (the name itself evokes adventure), the safari jacket looks smashing with **trousers** over **riding boots**.



SMOKING JACKET (AKA LE SMOKING)

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: Typically made of black silk satin, the smoking jacket is another name for tuxedo jacket (“un smoking” is French for tuxedo). It resembles a suit coat with a long lapel and a two- or three-button closure.



Smoking Jacket
(AKA Le Smoking)

WHO MADE IT:

In 1966, Yves Saint Laurent introduced his smoking jacket for women, Le Smoking, as part of a new tuxedo suit he fashioned.

WHO MADE IT HOT:

In 1975, legendary fashion photographer Helmut Newton shot an image of a model

with slicked-back hair donning an Yves Saint Laurent smoking jacket in a Paris back alley. The photo, published in *Harper's Bazaar*, is now legendary—it helped catapult the sexy, powerful image of the androgynous woman and remains one of the most edgy fashion images to date.

HOW TO ROCK IT: For a sleek, sophisticated look, try pairing your smoking jacket with stovepipes and stilettos.

TRENCH COAT

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: This long coat falls right above the knees. It is belted and has a convertible collar, button-front closure, and diagonal-cut front pockets.

WHO MADE IT: Thomas Burberry designed the trench during WWI for British soldiers to wear while fighting ... in the trenches. It was double-breasted to keep rain off of the officers' boots and had a wide belt for holding cargo like grenades and a pull-out liner that officers used as a blanket.

WHO MADE IT HOT: Jane Fonda became legendary for her sexy trench and tough-girl shag in the 1971 film *Klute*.

HOW TO ROCK IT: A trench looks great with everything from skinny jeans and stilettos to a minidress.



Trench
Coat

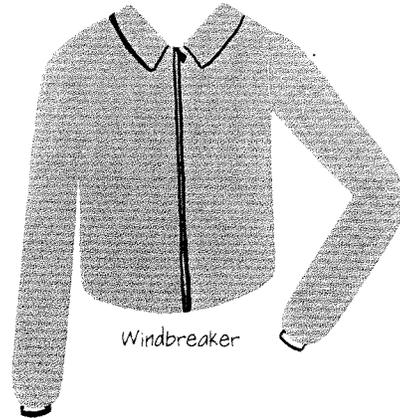
WINDBREAKER

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE: This waist-length shell is usually made from water-resistant lightweight fabrics like nylon. It can button up, zip up, or pull over. Its shape is similar to a **bomber**, but it hangs straight instead of hugging the waist.

WHO MADE IT: This jacket was molded after the waterproof British Royal Air Force flying jackets in the late 1940s. In England, it's also called a windcheater.

WHO MADE IT HOT: Windbreakers have been a popular part of hip-hop fashion since the '80s. Lady rhymesayers Monie Love and J.J. Fad helped launch the trend, and Missy Elliot has kept it going.

HOW TO ROCK IT: Because nylon can puff out a lot, windbreakers work well with baggy jeans.



Fluffed-Up Fonz

When ABC reviewed the first footage of the TV show *Happy Days*, executives saw the Fonz's leather jacket as something indicative of "criminal, violent, and homosexual behavior." To keep the show squeaky clean, they changed his jacket to a light-blue **windbreaker**. Eventually, producers persuaded the studio to approve of the tougher, leather-clad Fonz.

