

THE Kit

BEAUTY &
FASHION

BEAUTY IN A BEAT FASHION HEAD TO TOE

Nothing says hot times like golden-goddess skin. This season's broad range of powder bronzer shades and finishes make for flattering sun-inspired beauty without the glowing pains.

BY JANINE FALCON

Please see story, page 4

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ask jeanne

HOW TO WEAR MAXI IF YOU'RE MINI

Dear Jeanne,
How do you wear a maxi dress and not look overwhelmed if you're on the shorter side?
—Emily, Toronto

Dear Emily,
Rule of thumb number one: just because something has been deemed a hot trend doesn't mean you should feel obliged to subscribe to it. The media and retailers often scramble to excite women each season by telling them what the must-haves are.

Not every new look for the season is going to work well on every body type. We have to be honest with ourselves in the mirror. That being said, there's something romantic, nostalgic, elegant and downright glam about some of these new maxi dresses, and I believe that women of all heights should be able to indulge. And although the maxi may be best suited for those blessed with a few more inches, a petite woman can look gorgeous in one, too. The way not to be "overwhelmed" as you put it, is to be cognizant of the cut, colour and/or print of the dress, and to remember that in the case of shorter women, less really is more. Make sure the maxi you choose has minimal embellishments and strong, clean lines. Veer away from large prints that could overpower you, and opt for more subtle patterns or even plain solids. The new pastels are especially pretty and will lend an understated, feminine look. For more edge, a plain black dress will provide you with just the right amount of drama. Pay attention to the fabrics as well; something stiff and voluminous is usually more difficult for shorter women to wear. Go for fluid, sensual, lightweight fabrics for more comfort and ease. And, don't over-accessorize—as mentioned earlier, less is definitely more when it comes to petite styling.

A high slit, which is becoming more and more of a red carpet staple, can add a little levity to your look, and of course, a little sex appeal. You also want to avoid too many ruffles and tiers, and too much of a full skirt, all things that could dwarf you. To give the illusion of an elongated torso, consider the neckline (a V-neck would be most flattering) and avoid belts, which can also cut you a bit short. Thin styles cinching below the waist are best.

High heels will go even further to help you with your maxi dress, just make sure they're not

too clunky-looking or you risk drawing attention downward.

Be assured that although you're shorter than some, you can still carry off a powerful, dramatic look. Stand tall and remember that it's our inner confidence that makes us look our best, not the trendy clothes we choose to wear.—Jeanne

Send your questions to askjeanne@thekit.ca. Follow @Jeanne_Beker on Twitter.

Jeanne is a contributing style editor to the Toronto Star and host of Fashion Television Channel.



ILLUSTRATION: FREDERICK WATSON

WHAT WE WANT THIS WEEK

TOP THE KIT LIST 7

ACCESSORIES KIT

SPARKLY EARRINGS

Since massive sparklers during the day aren't for everyone, these dangle earrings are the perfect go-with-anything pair. The navy crystals boast a little shimmer but won't overpower your look. Kumari's earrings, \$195, kumaris.ca



HANDBAG KIT

CHIC CLUTCH

This is our tangerine dream—a sunny mix of the orange and white. Also available in a Tiffany blue for the traditionalist. Tiffany & Co. Morgan clutch, \$985, tiffany.com



FACE KIT

POWERHOUSE PALETTE

With this Quo Twice as Nice Cosmetic Palette, more is more: six shimmery shades and four berry glosses on one side and six matte shadows and four nude glosses on the other. \$25, Shoppers Drug Mart



BODY KIT

SEA SPRAY

Feel like you're on permanent vacation with Biotherm's new Eau Océane Eau de Toilette. The zesty aquatic-floral takes inspiration from the sea with fresh-faced citrus and salty notes. EDT \$54 (100 ml), biotherm.ca



CLOTHING KIT

PRINTED SHIFT

A structured shift can be one of the most flattering items in your wardrobe. A busy print conceals lumps or bumps, and the wide waistband defines your middle. Michael Michael Kors cotton-spandex dress, \$149, 866-733-5677

SHOE KIT

BRONZE SANDALS

This muted bronze is a no-fail neutral. The slanted strap lengthens your leg and doesn't cut you at an unflattering spot on your ankle. Nine West leather and wood sandals, \$130, ninewest.ca



FACE KIT

SHINY HAIR

Trying to achieve movie-star-worthy gloss with your hairstyle? Try Orofluido Shine Spray's new leave-in, frizz-controller with argan and linseed oils, \$22, orofluido.com



one-minute miracle

TROPICAL PERFUME

BY DEBORAH FULSANG

There's nothing like fragrance to transport you to another time and place—even if you're chained to your desk instead of skipping along the beach. Marc Jacobs's new trio of Splash toilettes is just the ticket to set you free. There's Rain, a watery floral highlighted by notes of cut grass, clementine, strawberry, amber, moss and musk. Also Kumquat, a zesty bloom-based toilette with citrus, tart kumquat and wood notes. And lastly, Hibiscus, a plush fragrance based on hibiscus but rounded out with raspberry and mandarin, freesia, tiare flower, wood and vetiver. Word to the shopping-wise: this is a limited-edition collection that will be as fleeting as the summer sun.



Marc Jacobs Splash the Tropical Collection: Kumquat, Rain or Hibiscus EDT (100 ml), \$49 each, at The Bay, Holt Renfrew, Sephora and Murale

on the cover KISSED BY THE SUN

BY JANINE FALCON



Vanessa Hudgens



Jennifer Aniston



Eva Mendes

TIP
Use with a fluffy brush for a sheer, light application.



Take uncertainty out of finding the right shade. **Physicians Formula pHmatchmaker pH Powered Bronzer** adjusts to your skintone via pH-sensitive pigments. \$20, physiciansformula.com

The hit of pink in this **Lise Watier Summer Sunset Bronzing Powder** multi-hued bronzer keeps fair skin from looking orangey—and the palette pops out so you can use the case as a beach-bag wallet. \$35, lisewatier.com

Shimmer can intensify the natural sheen on oily summer skin. For a velvety finish instead, try **Lancôme Star Bronzer Natural Matte**, which promises oil-absorbing benefits with stay-true colour. \$46, lancome.ca



After dusting forehead, temples, under cheekbones, jawline and lightly down the neck, fake that slightly sunburned childhood glow with lively pink blush on the apples of your cheeks. **Bobbi Brown Desert Twilight Bronzer/Blush Duo**. \$42, murale.ca



Elizabeth Arden Pure Finish Bronze Powder delivers warmth with low-key shimmer in light, medium and deep shades infused with green and white tea. \$45, elizabetharden.ca

news this week BRITISH MODELS AT OLYMPICS

Rumour has it that British models Kate Moss, Naomi Campbell and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley will take part in the **Olympics Closing Ceremony** August 12. Joined by a collection of lesser-known mannequins, the models will showcase some of the U.K.'s best designers, including Vivienne Westwood and Kate Middleton-favourite Sarah Burton of Alexander McQueen.



Above: Designer/model Kate Moss and designer Vivienne Westwood Left: Alexander McQueen designer Sarah Burton and model Naomi Campbell



DESIGNERS OF THE YEAR

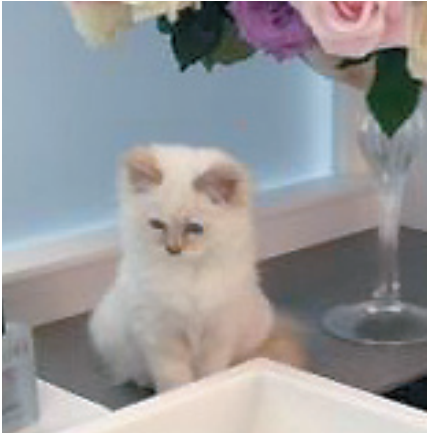
Remember when **Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen** sold their tween fashion and beauty collections at Walmart? Well, believe it or not, the stylish sisters beat out Marc Jacobs and Proenza Schouler for North America's most prestigious fashion prize: their label **The Row** was named Womenswear Designer of the Year by the Council of Fashion Designers of America.



Ashley and Mary-Kate Olsen

KARL'S NEW MEWS

Chanel designer and pop culture icon **Karl Lagerfeld** has a new muse: his kitten, Choupette. The pampered pet reportedly has her own iPad and two maids who tend to her every need and keep a diary of her moods when Lagerfeld is away. A Twitter account has even been started in her honour: follow along @ChoupettesDiary.



what's in your Kit: WHERE'S THE BEACH?

Don't leave the house without these key summer-lovin' surfside essentials

BY GLYNNIS MAPP

HANDY STRAW TOTE

Your summer look wouldn't be portable without a seasonal bag. Get this sunny striped one that holds everything. Joe Fresh paper straw tote, \$30, joefresh.com

FLIRTY SWIMSUIT TOP

This frilly bathing suit top is perfect under a T-shirt or sundress, and the pop of colour will look great with your faux tan. Old Navy spandex-nylon swimsuit top, \$23, oldnavy.ca

EAU DE SUMMER

A light fragrance will match your carefree mood. Biotherm Eau d'Énergie Awakening Body Mist \$54 (100 ml), biotherm.ca

SUBLIME SPF

Keep your skin youthful and protected by reapplying this sunscreen every two hours. Shiseido Suncare Ultra Sun Protection Lotion. \$49, at Murale

Maria Menounos



BEACH-BABE HAIR

Get that just-got-back-from-the-pool tousled look. Marc Anthony Dream Waves Amplifying Lotion, \$10, shoppersdrugmart.ca

NICE NECKLACE

Beach baubles are a seaside must-have. Get this turquoise one, a semi-precious that never goes out of style. Kumari's multi strand necklace, \$395, kumaris.ca

COLOURFUL SCARF

This high-hued scarf doubles as a sarong. Kumari's cotton scarf, \$75, kumaris.ca

OVERSIZED SUNNIES

Protect your eyes with sunglasses that are bold and beautiful. Cutler and Gross acetate sunglasses #837 in Cloud White, \$500, at Cutler and Gross in Toronto

PHOTO: CELEBRITIES: GETTY IMAGES. COVER STORY PRODUCTS AND WIKY: GEOFFREY ROSS.

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THE KIT GIRL

NAME
TRACEY STEER
CITY MONTREAL
OCCUPATION
WRITER AND BLOGGER
DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE
“Timeless, with an urban edge.”

Tracey Steer left Bay Street—and Toronto—for love in 1996 and has never looked back. The Westmount resident says Montreal made her who she is today. “It’s smaller, chicer and cooler, and living close to downtown suits me perfectly.” The writer and blogger is five feet tall, with a personality that’s anything but petite. GrumbleGirl.com is a place for the stay-at-home mom to vent about the good and the bad in her life (with a few swear words thrown in for good measure). However, that boldness doesn’t necessarily transfer to her attire, where she shies away from colour and patterns, preferring clean lines and lots of black. “I’ll go for texture over colour any day.” Steer invests in shoes and bags to change up her look, but she’s also partial to a fabulous hat. “They’re helpful, since I don’t have any hair to play with.”

For Tracey, the key for petites is the fit, and without tailoring, it can look sloppy. Converting a spare room into a dressing room allows Tracey to see her wardrobe at a glance, so getting dressed is akin to shopping. “I really see what I have, what’s missing and what needs replacing—I love it.”



WHAT IS SHE WEARING?
Forever 21 chiffon blouse, black satin pencil skirt from Le Château and Guess peep-toe shoes.

petite powerhouse

Tracey Steer shops from her own carefully curated closet **BY** VANESSA MURI

CLOSET STAPLES

Diane von Furstenberg Mackeda checkered lace and jersey tank dress, \$225, net-a-porter.com. Diane von Furstenberg also available at The Room at The Bay.



BCBG Max Azria leather wedges, \$270, at BCBG Max Azria and The Bay.



BEAUTY SECRETS

M.A.C. Cosmetics Matchmaster Foundation SPF 15, \$39, maccosmetics.com

KIT GIRL: MARC MURI; THEKIT.CA: GETTY IMAGES; PRODUCTS: GEOFFREY ROSS; OFF-FIGURE STYLING: BREANNA GOW/JUDY INC.; CELEBRITY: GETTY IMAGES



STYLE ROLE MODEL

Gwen Stefani



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VOTE

DO YOU WEAR SPANX?

Award-winning, curvy singer Adele has admitted to wearing four pairs of Spanx to this year’s Grammys. Tell us, do you wear body shapers? Go to TheKit.ca/fashion/accessories/adele-wore-four-pairs-of-spanx-would-you/



JUST HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH SKIN?

Learn the secrets to showing just enough skin to look sexy without letting it all hang out. For our five top trends and how you can get the look, head to TheKit.ca/shop/trends/how-to-look-hot-without-showing-too-much-skin/



CELEBRITY LOOK-ALIKES

You’ll be surprised at how many celebrities share the spotlight—and sometimes even the same red carpet—with their A-list look-alikes. See the celebrity twins of Kim Kardashian, Blake Lively, Natalie Portman and more at TheKit.ca/beauty/face/celebrity-look-alikes/

IN OUR DIGITAL ISSUE



SPORTY GEAR

The perfect mix of sports and streetwear is waiting for you in The Kit’s Summer 2012 digital magazine. Plus, find nail treats you never knew you wanted, and new hairstyles to go with them. Visit TheKit.ca and click on [The Kit Magazine](http://TheKit.ca).



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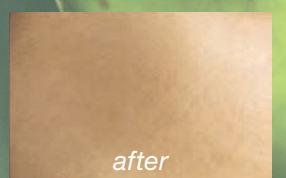
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