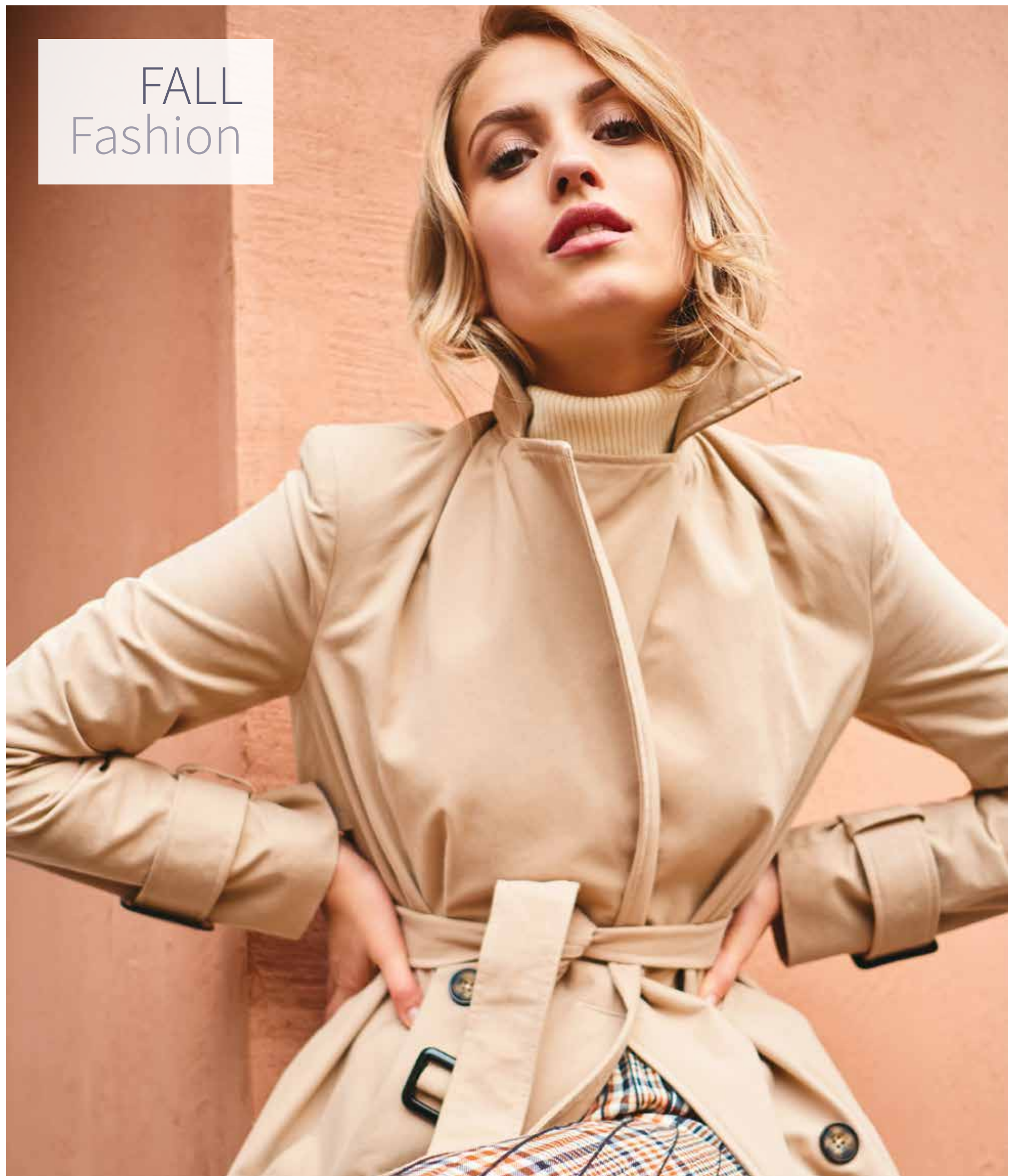


FALL  
Fashion



# Longer Hemlines, Bolder Sleeves

The hottest fall trends start with a cozier feel, just in time for cooler temperatures. But then they start getting more creative.

## FABRICS

Knitwear combines the best of both worlds: It's warm but also invitingly soft to the touch. Think sweater dresses of brushed mohair, fluffy angora, and classic wool from the likes of Hermes, Loewe or Kiki Kostadinov. Fringes, trains and paillettes also add a cool fashion touch while moving with you. Armani's latest fringe look debuted with no music, to underscore how motion defines this exciting trend.

## SHIRTS

Bold tailoring for the shoulder continues to be all the rage, as Valentino and Louis Vuitton pumped them up on blazers. Saint Laurent, Balenciaga, Off-White and Vetements have followed in true retro '80s fashion. At the same time, some are opting for an older-fashioned sloping sleeve from Dries Van Noten, Tory Burch or Courreges for a more elegant shape. Singlets and tank tops have also returned to runways — they look great under a coat on a cool autumn night.

## SKIRTS

Miniskirts seemed to keep getting shorter and shorter for years, but a new year and a



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new season seem to have reversed the trend. Suddenly, hemlines are hitting the floor — reversing the Miu Miu mini-skirt revolution. Floor-sweeping looks are back from the likes of Louis Vuitton, Saint Laurent and Sacai. Pair them with platform boots to complete the fall look.

## ACCESSORIES

As if ballooning '80s-style shoulder styles weren't enough, bows are also hip again — but this throwback goes much further back. Look for a flattened approach, with totally vintage material. If that feels a bit too retro, consider graphic styles or knotted trim.

The corset, another standby from another age, is also apparently here to stay. Metal bustiers take the look to one extreme, while Gucci went super sporty with an Adidas collaboration.

## CLASSICS

Wearing blue jeans with

something white will always be a fall fashion hit, whether it's an understated shirt — or a denim mini layered under a flowing white dress. Simple slip dresses are giving way to blinged up fall looks, with crystals and sequins galore. Transparent layers will also add shimmer on a cool night.

# Start with a Basic Foundation

As leaves begin falling, our fashion thoughts turn to warmer colors, stylish layers and cozy fabrics.

Unlike summer, when everything is more straight forward, dressing for fall often takes a little more thought and planning. You can streamline that process by making sure you have the basics on hand. Build your look with this sturdy foundation.

## JACKETS

Oversized blazers remain in fashion, even during a period of much more fitted looks. Let them flow more loosely and longer while pairing with fitted tops and jeans. It's a casually chic look that will always say "fall." Trench coats are both useful as winds pick up, and endlessly fashionable. Denim jackets are also perfect for the season's transitional climate.

## SWEATERS

Fall weather patterns require a warm sweater — but not too warm. The perfect example can still layer over a blouse or button-down shirt. Balance this versatility with a range of colors to up the style factor. Be careful with patterns, however, since that may limit your ability to mix and match. Cardigans are also warm (but not too warm), while also adding a pop of interest.

## DRESSES

Knee-length sweater dresses may include wrap dresses, sheath dresses or fit-and-flare dresses, but make a perfect fall choice when made of a comfy sweater fabric. Let the length of your dress or skirt go a little longer to guard against chillier winds.

Wear a fitted top to avoid

looking overly frumpy.

## PANTS

Spring and summer are all about white, while fall brings back the color black. That goes for pants and jeans, too. Black pants pair well with the season's prints, as well as camel brown, army green, chambray or stripes. Pull-on

pants have never been more on trend, and today come in a variety of chic looks like twill. Pair them with cardigans or chunky sweaters. If fall takes a particularly cold turn, keep the dresses on hand but add leggings.

## FOOTWEAR

Rather than the go-to

chunky boots, try a more versatile ankle-length look. Heel or no heel is up to you, but nothing is more current and classic. They go with practically everything.

Keep a pair of all-season boots around for the inevitable rainy fall day. They'll be even more handy once winter rolls around.



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# Pick the Best Fall Jacket

Let's face it, autumn isn't winter. There's no need for arctic explorer-style puffy coats. Conditions might require nothing more than a base layer or two and a thin windbreaker early into the fall months.

As the colder temps arrive, you'll need something that holds in a little more warmth. In between, the autumn months are often somewhere in between the seasons, cool and warm but never in either extreme. That requires a sharper eye for what makes a great medium-weight fall jacket.

## FABRICS AND INSULATION

Performance jackets are all the rage now, but most are simply too warm for fall. Look for thinner models, rather than puffer jackets. Lower "fill power" numbers on down jackets are ideal for the season.

Go with faux fur, since it doesn't have the same heating properties as natural furs. Natural fibers like wool remain go-to choices in the later autumn months. Consider trying Merino wool, which has all of the durability and lightweight attributes of its every-day cousin, but is a bit softer. Wool also has a sweat-wicking property that's great for outdoor fall fun.

## SPECIAL FEATURES

Warm-insulated hoods are great for winter, in particular something with a thick, cozy rim to help keep your cheeks warm. But that can end up as dead weight in the fall, so select models that have detachable hoodies. Look for jackets with drawstrings along the hemline, so they can be loosened when it's not freezing outside.

## SHOPPING TIPS

While trying on a fall jacket, be sure to wear a long-sleeve shirt or even a light sweater. You'll need to know how it fits with these items on underneath, and a comfy summer T-shirt or tank top won't provide the needed bulk. Once the jacket is on, zip it all the way up then move around as you usually would. A good all-purpose fall jacket has to provide this kind of every-day mobility. And remember that your next jacket doesn't have to be black. In fact, if you're often active in fall evenings when it's getting dark much earlier, choosing a more easily seen color is part of an array of a recommended set of safety precautions.



# Fall Fashion Mistakes to Avoid

Fall fashion requires more layers, but don't take it too far.

As the temperatures begin to drop, certain familiar things take place: Leaves turn brown and begin to collect on the ground. Baseball season draws to a close. And some people start making the same old fashion mistakes. Here's what to avoid.

## WEARING BAGGY CLOTHING

Oversized sweaters and tops are coming back into fashion again, but don't take that trend too far. There is a big difference between something that loosely fits and clothes that sag. The best way to tell where you stand on that fit spectrum is to check your sleeves. Properly sized garments will go to your wrists, while baggy clothes cover your hand. Shapeless coats are also far too common, obscuring your silhouette. Many coats are pre-tailored. Look for versions that are attractively cinched at the hips, or you can add a chunky belt.

## PLAYING IT TOO SAFE

Autumn has a built in color palette, based on the season itself. But you don't have to stick with browns, or even neutral colors. Don't be afraid to add a pop here and there to liven up your look. The choices are nearly endless, as we continue in an age of interesting color experimentation. Even the classic black look can now be mixed and matched with navy to create a trendy multi-hued appearance.

## ACCESSORIZING TOO MUCH

Leather gloves and blanket scarves can nicely finish any fall outfit.



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Pinterest and Instagram are filled with other accessory ideas aimed at living your best autumn life. But be careful about taking it too far. Leaving the house with too many additional items will ultimately take away from your look. Limit the number of things like necklaces, bracelets and earrings to

better showcase your unique fashion sense.

## ALWAYS WEARING THE SAME COAT

You probably have a favorite lighter fall coat, chosen because it's heavy enough to fight off a cool breeze but

not so heavy that you begin to over-heat. Wearing the same thing every single day, however, makes this crucial fashion component into an after-thought. It also begins to lessen the impact of the outfits underneath. Invest in more than one staple jacket, in several mix-and-match tones.

# Boots to Match any Style

Fall is all about sweaters, warm coats, cozy materials — and boots!

Knee-high and Chelsea boots are staples of the cooler-weather months, but you don't have to be limited by the fashion choices of yesterday. There's a boot choice to match any style.

## EVERY DAY

Marc Fisher's Yale Chelsea boot remains a staple of so many fall wardrobes. The heeled version balances the season's casual vibe with a dressy flair. Worried about the rain? Check out La Canadienne Braydon's waterproof edition of the Chelsea boot. The cozy UGG Classic Short II boot is never out of fashion, while Margaux's Downtown boots are suede, available in a variety of colors, and unbelievably comfortable. The hearty women's L.L. Bean boots are great for classic autumn pastimes like apple picking or trip to view the changing leaves. They come in Italian leather, too.

## FASHION FORWARD

Tired of all of the season's traditionally neutral colors? Check out Cole Hana's exciting Etta leopard-print booties. The waterproof Black Lace bootie includes cool splashes of color, and a stacked heel. Isabel Marant's French-styled Crisi suede ankle boots feature an



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interior wedge heel if you'd like to walk just a bit taller. Finally, croc-embossed boots are the peak of street style, and Schutz's Maryana's sexy knee-high version is to die for.

## TALL

Love Kate Middleton's style? Take a page from her royal handbook with a pair of Penny

boots from Sam Edelman. The Lowland over-the-knee suede boot from Stuart Weitzman takes the style up a trend notch or two. Some of the best lace-up options include Naturalizer's Callie boot and Sam Edelman's Lydell model, with its cozy knit backing. Dolce Vita's western-inspired Solei boot features a short heel

to improve comfort while walking.

## ANKLE

Khaite's sleek modern take on the old classic includes curved heels, a longer toe and no fasteners or hardware.

The Brave burgundy boot pairs one of fall's most essential colors with a modern pat-

ent shine. Seychelles also offers an attractive ankle boot, while the beige suede Finch booties by Calvin Klein lifts off with another stacked heel. Louise et Cie's Viveca pointed-toe bootie has a cool embossed shine, while Tory Burch's Miller wool-blend leather bootie features the still-hot lug-soled look.

# Finding the Best Dry Cleaner

Summer clothes can usually be washed and tumble dried, then you're on your way. But the weightier, more luxurious material used in fall is often best served by a professional dry cleaner.

They'll know how to best clean and preserve your fall wardrobe, so it will serve you for many, many seasons to come.

## PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT

Clothes are an investment, and the best way to make sure they last is by taking the best possible care of them. Follow the designer's washing instructions. If a particular item's tag recommends dry cleaning, you won't be able to simply drop them in the washer. You could end up retrieving an unwearable article of clothing. Oftentimes, even pieces that may be machine washed can have their life extended by regular cleaning by a professional.

## CONVENIENCE AND LOCATION

If you're being honest, you know you're not going to drive all the way across town in order to get a garment professionally dry cleaned.

We lead lives that are sim-



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ply too busy. So search out a quality dry cleaner that's near home. Research the three or four closest operations, looking at online reviews and talking to friends and neighbors.

Next, do an on-site visit to see which has the best drop-off experiences — including parking, curbside or window service.

## DO YOUR HOMEWORK

The next step isn't to simply drop your clothing off. Go inside and ask questions about their operation. Ask about checklists that show the cleaner has done standard evaluations like looking for stains, loose buttons or hanging threads. Ask if they use fresh solvents with every load, since reusing it can create a build

up that might be re-deposited on your clothes. If you're environmentally conscious, ask if they use environmentally friendly solvents and soaps. Many dry cleaners use perchloroethylene, a solvent that's been linked to problems for both people and our planet.

## FINAL QUESTIONS

Ask if they offer overnight

service for emergencies and about pickup and delivery service — since you may need that service as life gets particularly hectic. Many companies will come right to your door if you can't get by their nearest location. Get specific pricing structures for shirts, pants and other items you'll be dropping off, then compare them from company to company.

# Essential Fall Looks for Men

Having trouble deciding on a wardrobe update this year?

If you're feeling restless about your wardrobe, but can't quite figure out where to begin your make over, consider building off the classic looks associated with some of the world's most recognizable looks. These cities exude a certain style that you can easily make your own.

## NEW YORK

New York City brings a whole new level of sophistication to the classic ensemble of a coat and sweater. Burgundy, forest green and navy are on-trend colors for the season's comfy cashmere or wool. Pair a turtle-neck with a Polo Ralph Lauren double-face construction coat and the Ridge zip boots for a fresh look. There's still plenty of sun in fall, so add some cool sunglasses, if you like — but make sure they match the pants and shoes, which should remain neutral.

## LONDON

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Londoners tend toward tweed and suits. Prince Charles leads the way with a double-breasted coat from Anderson and Sheppard that's long been his go-to tweed. He also relies on a standard gray three-piece suit, likewise by Anderson and Sheppard. What better fashion path to follow than a

future king? Pair it with a classic Oxford dress shirt in lavender, and a nifty silk tie.

## PORTLAND

The men get a good bit more rugged as you head toward the Pacific Northwest. In that adventurous spirit, don't be afraid to mix the stripes of a Prism Polo with the plaid jacket. The finishing touch here, as usual, is a little more nonchalant: try a baseball cap, or a medallion on a chain.

## MILAN

Italian men somehow combine high style and a supremely cool demeanor, defined by the word "sprezzatura" in the Book of the Courtier. So they'll wear a coat against the cold, but pair it with a wide-brim fedora rather than a stocking cap. If dress shoes aren't your thing, take "sprezzatura" to the extreme by wearing high-top sneakers instead.

## SEOUL

This fast-pulse city has a futuristic look to match. So, begin with a black leather jacket. Then add a black Cage Harness shirt. And black vulcanized low sneakers. And black accessories like a designer duffel bag. You get the idea.

Everything is in service of elegance and versatility. And it's pretty much all black.

