

FASHION

Looking stylish has never been so easy

Seasonal STYLE

Velvet, sequins, shimmer and shine – get ready
for the most glamorous time of the year!

FASHION DIRECTOR PAULA MOORE **PHOTOGRAPHER** SEAN COOK

Dress, £238, sizes 8-18,
Philosophy di Lorenzo Serafini
at theoutnet.com;
shoes, £295, russellandbromley.co.uk;
bag, £15, matalan.co.uk;
earrings, £12, accessorize.com;
ring, £130, lucyqdesigns.co.uk;
wreath on door, £125,
thewhitecompany.com >>





fashion inspiration

TAILOR-MADE

- ✦ A tuxedo dress is a tailored take on the high-hemline trend for party season. A pussy bow blouse will add a touch of festive fun.
- ✦ Look for styles in luxury finishes such as velvet or high-shine metallics for a chic party option.
- ✦ This style of dress looks best with bare legs, but low-denier tights will offer coverage without compromising on style.

Dress, £199, blouse, £159, both sizes 6-20, hobbs.com; shoes, £60, next.co.uk; earrings, £85, dowerandhall.com; ring, £130, lucyqdesigns.co.uk; wrapping paper, £12 for a set of three, velvet ribbon, from a selection, both rowenandwren.co.uk; green ribbon and leaf-print wrapping, £8.50, next.co.uk; Christmas tree, from a selection, dobbies.com >>

A woman with blonde hair is smiling and holding a bunch of white balloons. She is wearing a red sequined dress with a ruffled collar and a keyhole detail. The background is a dense green hedge.

RED ALERT

- ✦ For all-out sparkle-season glamour, it doesn't get more festive than red sequins.
- ✦ This fit-and-flare dress features a nipped-in waist that makes the most of your shape, delicate butterfly sleeves that skim over your upper arms, and keyhole detail that offers just a hint of décolletage – all making for a really flattering fit.

Dress, £309, sizes xs-xl, celiab.com;
shoes, £139, phase-eight.com;
earrings, £249, thomassabo.com;
bracelet, £89, coeur-de-lion.org;
rings, £14, accessorize.com



GO FOR GOLD

- ✦ Molten metallics are guaranteed to get you in the Christmas spirit!
- ✦ The pleated waist detail will draw attention to your narrowest point before flaring gently over your lower half.
- ✦ Keep your accessories simple – a delicate necklace and stacked gold bangles will let this frock do the talking.

Dress, £110, sizes 8-24, monsoon.co.uk; earrings, £15, matalan.co.uk; necklace, £95, hotdiamonds.co.uk; hammered bangle, £275, dowerandhall.com; ring, £130, lucyqdesigns.co.uk; 6ft Christmas tree, £229, and baubles, £25 for 42, both johnlewis.com >>

TRAIL BLAZER

✦ A velvet blazer can be used to dress up jeans and heels, or temper the most dramatic party outfit. Throw it over your favourite dress for a borrowed-from-the-boys look.

✦ Love pushed-up sleeves but can't get them to stay up? Add a fine hairband in the same colour as your blazer at the elbows, and ruche the fabric over for the perfect, nonchalant cool look.

Blazer, £149, sizes 6-26, phase-eight.com; dress, £207, sizes s-l, Hofmann Copenhagen at theoutnet.com; shoes, £189, hobbs.com; necklace, £185, sijjakobs.uk; large striped mirror balls, £55 each, rockettstgeorge.co.uk; large silver baubles, £45, thewhitecompany.com; small glass baubles, £25 for 42, johnlewis.com





SMOOTH OPERATOR

- ✦ Swap your LBD for this gem of a velvet dress, which features gorgeous statement bow sleeves.
- ✦ Teal is a cooler tone, so warm up your look with gold jewellery and accessories.
- ✦ Add extra inches to your legs with a pair of metallic heels – the reflective surface acts as a neutral and will merge with skin for an uninterrupted optical line.

Dress, £110, sizes 8-24, monsoon.co.uk; shoes, £195, camillaelpick.com; earrings, £10, next.co.uk; bangles, £145 and £275, both dowerandhall.com; ring, £115, sifjakobs.uk >>



CHECK MATE

- ✦ Up your outdoor look and keep the chill at bay with a colourful checked coat as an alternative to classic black or navy.
- ✦ The deep pink of this dress and burgundy accessories echo the colours of the coat for a tonal look.
- ✦ Duo boots offers a variety of calf widths, lengths and heel heights for a custom fit at a fraction of couture prices.

Coat, £99, sizes 6-24, marksandspencer.com; dress, £228, sizes xs-l, Nicholas at theoutnet.com; boots, £275, duoboots.com; bag, £239, radley.co.uk; earrings, £95, dowerandhall.com; necklace, £60, lilycharmed.com; pinky ring, £65, screampretty.com; other rings, £75 and £130, both lucyqdesigns.co.uk

JUMP TO IT

- ✦ If you're looking for a stylish alternative to dresses, this one-shoulder velvet jumpsuit is the perfect party piece.
- ✦ A skin-toned strapless bra and tummy-smoothing knickers will give your figure a boost. Check out page 92 for more shapewear solutions.
- ✦ Highlight the statement one-shoulder neckline with simple jewellery such as drop earrings, to draw the eye up naturally.

Jumpsuit, £199, sizes 6-18, adriannapapell.com; earrings, £95, bangle, £79, both coeur-de-lion.org; bracelet, £159, amelia-scott.com; ring, £25, screampretty.com; champagne, tesco.com; pre-lit garland, £150, thewhitecompany.com >>





GROWN-UP GLAM

- ✦ Pussy bow blouses look just as cool with the ribbons worn loose and laid-back.
- ✦ Hoop earrings will add interest to every outfit. Here, the pearl detail offers a chic twist on a jewellery box favourite.
- ✦ High-waisted, wide-leg trousers will create the illusion of longer legs. This black pair has added sparkle, making them the perfect party pants.

Top, £55, sizes xs-xl, frenchconnection.com; trousers, £54.99, sizes 4-24, hm.com; shoes, £59, marksandspencer.com; earrings, £10, next.co.uk

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A woman with blonde hair is smiling and posing in a field of tall grass. She is wearing a dark purple sequined dress with ruffled sleeves and a matching top hat. She is holding the brim of the hat with her left hand. In the background, there is a wooden building with a tiled roof and a stone wall.

fashion inspiration

TO THE MAX

✦ If you can't go big at Christmas, when can you? Needle & Thread's gorgeous sequin and tulle gown is all you need to be black tie-ready.

✦ An opulent dress like this deserves to be the star of the show, so keep jewellery to a minimum and opt for delicate styles.

✦ The ballerina length of this dress will show off your lower legs – choose heels with the strap below the ankle bone for the most flattering finishing touch.

Dress, £550, sizes 4-22,
needleandthread.com;
shoes, £135, dunelondon.com;
hat, £279, moss.co.uk;
earrings, £125, bracelet, £89,
both coeur-de-lion.org;
rings £14, accessorize.com