

SPRING ACCESSORIES

It's the end of winter, and your sequined hobo bag is so worn out that it looks like it could actually belong to a hobo. The only accessories you've been able to wear are knitted, and what's the point of earrings when they're covered by earmuffs? This spring reinvent your wardrobe with jewelry and handbag trends that embody the season's natural changes and essence of fun.



Purse Trends

Wicker And Woven Bags

Think of these purses as the big girl's Easter basket. While they go perfect in the daytime they don't always translate well into evening wear and can come off a little silly. Wicker is also not the sturdiest material, but hopefully by the time it starts to wear out the season will be over.

Big bags

It seems that as Hollywood actresses get smaller their bags just keep getting bigger. This season look for canvas and natural materials rather than leather and metallic. Also, it can look funny in the evening when your purse consists of more material than your outfit, so switch to an evening bag before going out.

Rolls

For those who don't have time to switch purses for night and day and every outfit, this trend is a safe choice. Equal parts cute and functional, roll purses can be dressed up or down and have space enough to carry the necessities and not be intrusive.

Embroidery

Sequins are the choice decoration for winter; embroidery is the choice of spring. Whether it's on clothes or bags this homespun looking flair is less flashy but more practical for outdoor activities. For an ethnic style, look for traditional Mexican embroidery. For a hip style, go for DIY looking tattoo and animal images.

Light leather

Good news for the women that absolutely must have leather, who lust after Louis bags and who know Dooney & Bourke like they're friends. Skin is in for spring. Sage green, tan and white are all colors of the season. Also look for light materials like straw and denim being mixed with leather.



Jewelry

Dripping Chains

The chunky chandelier earrings of winter are too heavy to be paired with materials like linen and cotton. Long flowing strands of chains are lighter, not to mention they elongate the neck when wearing tank tops and strapless outfits. Look for pieces that use chains of different thicknesses and thus have a more three dimensional appearance.

Floral motifs

It's a short trip from classy to corny when it comes to floral motifs, so if you shy away from pastels there are other options. Choosing something subtle means your jewelry will have more staying power and won't look dated by next spring. Flowers etched or cast in silver are a classic choice.

Natural materials

Nature really makes itself known in spring, claim a little of this for yourself with jewelry made from wood and semi-precious stones. Leave really dark, earthy materials like turquoise and cinnabar for summer and stick to light stones like jade or mother-of-pearl.

Cheeky plastics

Tap into your inner child with something fun and youthful. These big colorful pieces can make a bold statement, and turn a good outfit into a great one. Not nearly as spendy or fragile as gold and diamonds, they allow you to be active without ruining a nice piece of jewelry. Go with one strong item to avoid looking like a child who raided her mother's costume jewelry.

Artisan Glass

It's not just a piece of jewelry; it's a piece of art. Incorporating both bright colors and metallics, glass jewelry goes well with this season's color palette, and under sunlight they glow like a stained glass window. Invest in a unique work from a local artist that you won't find in any mall.

