



THE REAL MAN'S STYLE GUIDE

THIS MONTH MAXIM GOES BACK TO THE BASICS. WE ROUNDED UP A PANEL OF A-LIST FASHION EXPERTS FOR A STEP-BY-STEP RULEBOOK THAT THROWS LIGHT ON THE GAMUT OF STYLE FAQs THAT MATTER THE MOST TO YOU.

by MEHER BAJWA

STEP 1—IDENTIFY YOUR OWN BRAND OF STYLE

Miss Malini: Personal style constantly evolves and is a product of your experiences, comfort and depends entirely on how one chooses to express it. At Team Miss Malini we believe that the easiest way to nail your signature style is to find the middle ground between trends and a range of looks that feel like the best version of you.

PS Bhavana: Style is about working on a proportionate mix of identity (what you really are), persona (what you think you are) and image (what others perceive you to be), and then letting parts of this trio manifest in tangibles like clothing and accessories. So, personal style can only be determined when it matches your personality, profession and lifestyle.

Maneka Harisinghani: Be yourself. Discover your preferences and where your comfort zone lies. Dress according to the occasion. More important, do not imitate anyone else—you've got to be stylish in your own way. **Manou:** I think taking a close look at the clothes in your wardrobe or looking at what you are wearing in old photos of yourself will give you a good idea of what you like and dislike. If all else fails just ask a close girl friend who has great taste!

Samant Chauhan: Understanding your body type is the most important aspect of developing a personal brand of style. Don't wear things that don't fit—loose or tight!

STEP 2—GATHER THESE WARDROBE STAPLES

A) Casual outings

Miss Malini: A crisp pastel linen shirt, pop-printed socks, vintage wayfarers, a soft knit scarf and comfy suede loafers will have you good to go.

PS Bhavana: An off-white linen shirt, indigo jeans, a kurta-shirt, a pair of chinos or khaki pants, and a bright collared tee.

Maneka Harisinghani: You need a basic white T-shirt, blue jeans, urban sneakers, a chambray shirt and a pair of shorts.

Manou: Every guy needs dark blue jeans, tailored cotton pants, round-neck tees and plaid shirts.

Samant Chauhan: A basic white shirt with blue jeans and moccasins or a polo-neck T-shirt with jeans should do the trick.

B) Working the nine-to-five

Miss Malini: Your wardrobe needs a slim, navy blue or chocolate toned blazer, a crisp dress shirt, a pin-striped tie, vintage cufflinks, a printed pocket square and brogues.

PS Bhavana: Invest in a charcoal black, slate grey or midnight blue suit, French-cuffed white shirts, flat-fronted camel, ecru or beige trousers, micro-print silk ties or ethnic-printed cravats.

Maneka Harisinghani: Stock up on dress shirts, fitted blazers, dress pants, matching tie and belts.

Manou: Go all white or all black or all linen.



CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP: Paul Newman; stretch cotton shirt by Burberry; beige pants by Thomas Pink; dress shoes by Corneliani; sneakers by DC

It depends on the time of day.

Samant Chauhan: All you need is a tailor-made suit and Oxford shoes for important business meetings.

C) Evening soirées

Miss Malini: A fine block but subtly printed shirt. A well-fitted waistcoat, a slim brown leather belt, a vintage dial watch and a pair of well-fitted denim jeans in a dark tone.

PS Bhavana: Slim-fit denims, subtly-quirky but self-printed white or coloured shirt, black, long Nehru jacket with matching trousers, double-breasted suit, and Jodhpur pants.

Samant Chauhan: Lapel suits or tuxedos with bowties or pencil ties for formal parties.

STEP 3—THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHILE SHOPPING FOR:

A) A dress shirt

Miss Malini: The fabric has to be one that lets

your skin breathe.

Maneka Harisinghani: Avoid billowy shirts, instead go for a slim-fit shirt with a stiff collar and cuffs.

Samant Chauhan: The shirt should fit you properly, and if you have a beer gut avoid slim-fit shirts.

B) A blazer or suit jacket

Maneka Harisinghani: A structured blazer is all you need. Choose light-weight fabrics such as linen and cotton for summers and corduroy for winters.

Miss Malini: The shoulder fit. When in doubt opt for the single-breasted jacket and dress it up with a fun pocket square.

C) A classic pair of jeans

Samant Chauhan: Fit and comfort level are the most important while shopping for jeans because it's something you're probably going to wear every day. Your jeans should not be

THE MAXIM STYLE COUNCIL



TEAM MISS MALINI
Malini Agarwal, founder of celebrity, entertainment and fashion website MissMalini.com, Marvin D'Souza and Anushka Mulchandani.



PS BHAVANA
She's an ex-magazine editor, freelance fashion journalist and founder of her own design label.



MANOU
Photographer and street style blogger at WearAbout.com, Manou believes in the power of pictures and fashion.



MANEKA HARISINGHANI
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Acclaimed fashion designer and style guru to countless young men and women.