Fall Fashion Trends: The Pantone Color Report's 10 Hottest Colors for Fall

October 6, 2016Erin WarrenFashion

It's that time of year again! During New York Fashion Week, the Pantone Color Institute revealed its biennial Fashion Color Report. After surveying more than 20 designers about their upcoming color choices, the report highlights the shades that were bound to dominate the catwalk. So, with the recent release of its Fall 2016 color forecast, we can thank the color-predicting wizards at Pantone for some foresight into the hues we'll be wearing all season.

The Fall 2016 report revealed a 10-color palette led by the blue family, followed by reddish-brown shades, neutrals and pops of vibrant hues. These unexpectedly vivacious colors in the 2016 palette act as a playful but structured departure from your more typical fall shades.

However, you definitely won't need to do a major overhaul of your closet, as last Spring's dominant color story and Pantone's Colors of the Year are still relevant this fall. But when you buy a new fall color wardrobe item – or three – be sure to shop through Splender.com to receive cash back on every purchase!

So without further ado, here are the top colors for fall and tips on how to seamlessly integrate them into your wardrobe!

Soothing Blues



Ikiru by Nars from Bloomingdales (4% cash back) 2. Rebecca Minkoff Paris Multi Saddle Bag from Bloomingdales 3. Double-Breasted Coat from J.Crew (6% cash back) 4. BCBGeneration Ruffled Chiffon Eyelet Camisole from LastCall by Neiman Marcus (6% cash back) 5. Round Toe Ballet Flats from Target.com (1% cash back) 6. Cashmere Blend Scarf from Cole Haan (7% cash back)

Both new shades in the blue family, Riverside and Airy Blue represent calmness and stability. Riverside is a cool, comforting shade, yet still vibrant and sophisticated, whereas Airy Blue evokes feelings of lightness and freedom with nods to 2016's Color of the Year, Serenity. Both could be worn with Lush Meadow, Taupe or Dusty Cedar for a fresh approach or worn together for a monochromatic scheme. These serene and versatile shades can be worn throughout the year, so scoop up fabrics and wardrobe pieces that are ideal for layering.

Shades of Red



1. Flower Bib Necklace from Kohl's (4% cash back) 2. Mini Rider Bag from J.Crew (4% cash back) 3. Clinique Chubby Stick in Mightiest Maraschino from Sephora.com (8% cash back) 4. 'Marbles' Chelsea Boot from Topshop (4% cash back) 5. Faux Suede Mini Skirt from Forever 21 (3% cash back) 6. Yves Saint Laurent Fringed Wool Blend Scarf from Saks OFF Fifth (8% cash back)

Red tones like Aurora Red and Potter's Clay invite confidence and warmth into any outfit. Aurora Red will add a welcome punch to your fall and winter wardrobe. It's warm, sensual and draws the eye, making it the perfect color for accessories against an otherwise neutral outfit.

Potter's Clay, however, is a more neutral earth tone. This classic autumn shade provides an added degree of sophistication and warmth. The mixture of orange and brown undertones provides a strong foundation to your fall wardrobe.

Neutral Hues



 Asymmetric Drape Top from TopShop (4% cash back) 2. Nars Amour Blush from Sephora (8% cash back) 3. Marc Jacob's Women's Baker Rosetone Grey Leather Watch from Jet.com (2% cash back) 4. Kate Spade Leslie Cross Body Bag from shopbop (4% cash back) 5. 525 American Cotton Shaker Sweater Dress from shopbop 6. OPI Nail Lacquer in 'French Quarter for Your Thoughts' from Target.com (1% cash back) 7. Women's Rocking Boots from Steve Madden (4% cash back)

Neutrals have been in high demand this year, with particular affection for a certain muted shade of pink, also known as 'Millennial pink'. Since Pantone revealed its co-Color of the Year 2016, Rose Quartz, the dreamy color has been seen everywhere. Dusty Cedar is making the case for a more muted, earthy pink for fall. This rose-toned pink exudes warmth, making it perfectly fitting for the fall and winter seasons.

Another shade, Warm Taupe, is emerging as the stand-out neutral for fall '16. It's a grounded and approachable neutral that pairs well with each of the top 10 shades of the season. You're likely to see it in abundance in jackets and other outerwear this season.

An unexpected shade like Sharkskin Gray serves as a neutral with an edge that can be paired with almost any fall color, whether bright or muted. The contemporary shade delivers a feeling of stability and looks chic worn head-to-toe for a modern, unexpected look. Millennials' fondness for the gray hair look is only furthering the fashion trend.

Jewel Tones



Pleated Midi Skirt from ASOS.com (5% cash back)
Essie Off Tropic Nail Polish from Rakuten.com (2% cash back)
Coin Purse from J.Crew (6% cash back)
Kendra Scott Magenta Drop Earrings from LastCall from Neiman Marcus
All-Day Tote from J.Crew (6% cash back)
Velvet Wrap Cami Top from ASOS.com (5% cash back)

The report's other big themes are colors that inspire stability and confidence, as seen in reliable bold shades. Hot pinkish-purples like Bodacious and the zesty yellow, Spicy Mustard, suggest a touch of the exotic and uplifting vibrancy. Both unexpected colors for fall are sure to make a statement. Spicy Mustard looks great paired with Riverside or Sharkskin while the versatile Bodacious lends itself to vibrant color combinations particularly with pinks and reds.

Similar to the Spring 2016 report, there are a lot of nature references this season. This time around, though, the earthy vibes come courtesy of several dynamic earth tones, including Lush Meadow. The rich, elegant hue brings to mind fresh botanicals and foliage. Luckily, while green hues fade as temperatures start to drop outside, your wardrobe can remind you of warmer days. Add a touch of sophistication by pairing this shade with any of the aforementioned colors. Riverside and Warm Taupe look particularly harmonious.

As the temperature drops outside, you can add a little heat your wardrobe with some new items in fall's hottest shades. Splurge a little – or a lot – with these unexpected color inspirations from the Pantone Color Institute. Do you have a favorite fall color? Let us know in the comments below!

And, as you build your fall wardrobe, don't forget to shop with Splender to earn cash back on all of your new looks.

Sign up today!