

Please see my special holiday offer. Go to www.patrickswan.com



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Winter warm but still wonderful!

There's an art to looking good in the cold. We don't necessarily want to look as though we have just parked our huskies, nor like a woolly parcel. Here is my guide to keeping warm but looking chic and gorgeous - no matter what the weather.

In fact, you can actually have a lot of fun with winter dressing this year. Most every retailer has some great ribbed tights. Check out the offerings from Selfridges to M&S and some great ones I noticed at H & M in colours from Moss green to Aubergine to charcoal grey.



I have noted that 1970s-style leg warmers are back, but this time round they are tucked inside your boots. This look is perfect if you have very slim legs. Fingerless gloves are a must if you want to use your smart phone out of doors. Oh, and snoods are the new scarves. You can wear these in a double loop, which will really keep you snug around the ears! Remember to keep your hair and eye colour in mind when picking the colour.



If you tend to feel the cold or damp, the best choice is cashmere. It's also perfect if you have issues with wool being too scratchy. Good quality Merino wool is my next favourite - new wool is only for the hardy! Look for cardigans and jumpers with interesting hemlines, such handkerchief points or oversized and team with a contrasting tight and a heel to transform it to an evening look. If you have a great bum, seek out those longer in the front and shorter at the back but go for hip or thigh length if your bum is not your best asset. Asymmetrical lines can be flattering and are a trend

that will go into spring and summer, so are good forward-planning purchases.

Overall, cable knit jumpers and cardigans are the key trends this winter, along with deep cowl necklines. For that perfect look to entertaining try a style such as a maxi length cowl neck dress as I have pictured here.



Jackets should always stop at your widest point. A key trend one that has a life is the jacket made from suede or shearling. If you are broad on top and have strong shoulders, you will find a shawl neck collar that can double as a hood particularly becoming. Or for a great twist try a furry gillet which you may be very surprised how versatile it can be



The perfect coat shape and neckline for the English Pear shape is a wide lapel, with a wide reverse, belted, and soft A-line to the knee or just above. Soft wool will create smoothness over the hip and will not add any weight.



If you are boyish shape, try a cropped jacket over a knee-to-midi length ruffled dress as you will benefit from the added softness. As you are slim, you can team them with a textured tight and, if you are 5'7'' or taller, finish with an ankle boot. If you are shorter, a platform ankle boot will elongate the body.

If you can't wear a heel, your jacket should be more of a cropped style or at least no longer than your widest point. Try a slim leg or legging when wearing a hip or thigh length jacket, with a top that mirrors that length, or have a top that just peeks out underneath. You will be surprised how this will knock 10 years off your look...



Men...Do take advantage of the snood , a great knit baker boy style cap and fingerless gloves too...they simply just set the right note and give you the edge that is what makes the modern man quirky and very cool... For those who need an update to ones jumper style, I am very fond of again bulky knit with interesting neckline with button details...perfect for crisp walks after Xmas Lunch.



Great gift tips

ME for a day!



Pendants long necklaces, skinny belts soft woven belts for waist or hip chain belts great buckled belts which are great because they tend to draw the eye to the centre of the body clutters of bracelets.

Other ideas include a special shoe, winter sunglasses that just take the glare away, a bit of bling with a cocktail ring, metallic nail varnish, or a chain link over-the-shoulder bag. Silver or sequins are good for spring and summer too - I have seen these in many trend looks. What about a sequined dress... It does make it feel like a holiday.



Let's not forget it is a time for celebrating and giving so do whatever you can to not let the economic woes get you down this holiday season...

PS... Remember my 20% offer can help too along with my special 2 for one offer I mentioned in my last mail which you can read more about at www.patrickswan.com

Very best regards,

Patrick Swan