



# The A to Z of *racing style*

## A

**accessories** are central to conveying not only an appearance of put-together style, but also the feeling of it. Both genders take note ~ hat or fascinator, sunglasses, jewelry & your best watch, purse, shoes and any other elements your outfit may require (a belt or gloves perhaps?) that let you stand apart from the rest.

## B

**be fabulous** ~ as in Moët. Celebrate race day in style with one of the finest French champagnes in the business.

## C

**colour** ~ either on-trend soft pastel shades or vivid brights, the Spring Carnival is the time to inject some into your outfit. Camera shy? Stick to black, white and red, these are colours that pop and look striking on just about anyone.

## D

**dress up** ~ always. Every day is another day and another reason for looking fabulous. The Spring Classic takes it to a whole new level.

## E

**editing** is as important as getting dressed. Revise your look. Don't dress for the sake of a trend. If you feel it's too much, it most likely is. When in doubt, cut it out.

## F

**fascinators** ~ There is nothing fun, interesting or glamorous in playing it subtle. Don't be afraid of statement headpieces. If you show up looking more glam than the rest, what's the worst-case scenario? You look the best on the track?



## G

**glamour** is in the details. It's not just about the outfit. Every little detail matters. If the hair and makeup isn't right, none of the rest matters. Men this extends to you too – hair should be tidy and faces should be clean-shaven – make the effort.

## H

**handbags** – a bag can make an outfit. It can just as easily break it too. A simple clutch that complements your look, holds your essentials and marries fashion and function is essential.

## I

**indulge** in ladylike luxe. Elegant, classic and sophisticated are definitely far from boring – just the opposite in fact. Work total uptown chic and own that rich, well-shod look. Throw on pearls and a classic skirt suit for a polished way to dress that doesn't compromise an inch of style.

## J

**jewelry** should be the last thing you put on and the first thing you take off. It is the ultimate finishing touch and the Spring Classic is the perfect day to showcase your precious jewelry and indulge in real luxury.

## K

**the key** to style is ensuring that the cut and colour of the outfit works for you. There's no point in picking up a fabulous dress if you're not 100 per cent comfortable in it. Comfortable reads confidence and confidence reads stylish.

## L

**length** – we're talking dresses and skirts. You can wear something above the knee (ish) but be reasonable – say an inch or two. If you can do a 'Basic Instinct – Sharon Stone' thing in your dress, it's definitely the wrong thing to wear on the day.

## M

**make a statement.** Give your personal look some interest with a piece that is uniquely you. Bring focus to a classic black or navy suit by adding a beautiful set of cufflinks. Or work your signature style – a fedora, scarf or eyewear – to its best effect.



## N

**nails** should be clipped and clean. Lacquer shades of red, wine or deep berry look particularly chic on short fingernails and toenails and tend to complement most shades for spring. For a manicure that lasts you can't look past O.P.I. Their reputation precedes them for polish that goes the distance and on-trend colours with memorable names such as 'Red My Fortune Cookie' and 'I'm Not Really A Waitress'.

## O

**old is new.** Traditional fabrics like jacquard, brocade, tweed and lace (not too sheer) are updated by numerous designers this season in modern cuts that will work on everyone. From the 1920's to the 1990's, look to the decade which best represents your style.

## P

**prints** from graphic to floral – this trend is going to be mah-jor. Avant-garde and the perfect way to refresh your wardrobe – a printed dress – is the most coveted dress style for the Spring Carnival.

## Q

**quick and easy.** Keep things fuss-free with an outfit that is the epitome of put together perfection. A sleek shift dress with a matching dress jacket. A slim-line navy suit with a crisp white shirt. Modern classics with major fashion credibility.

## R

**romance.** Fashion's latest love affair – served up in the form of soft pleating, ruffles and muted colours. Perfect for creating an elegant look for the racing season and oh-so flattering. Ladylike is the word.

## S

**suit yourself.** Firstly decide on the style you wish to wear and then the fabric. The most versatile option will be a cloth of a darker hue but shades of grey are particularly popular at the moment and offer a modern take on a classic look. Inject colour by way of a complementing shirt, tie and pocket square.

## T

**ties;** I have to admit I prefer a look without them but there are times when they work like nothing else. The best way to wear a tie is when it looks effortless and not like a noose. This season look for options that are narrow and solid – black, navy and gunmetal. Sometimes attitude is all it takes.



## U

**undone glamour is modern.** Don't strive to be too buttoned-up or too polished – you will only end up looking uncomfortable. Tweak formal to suit your own personal style.

## V

**vintage** is more popular than ever and it means you will be the only one on the track in that particular outfit. However be careful when styling your look and be true to yourself rather than perfectly trying to channel a bygone era that just isn't you and looking out of place.

## W

**watches** play an important role on race day. Perhaps the ultimate item that crosses the line to be considered more functional than fashionable. It should be able to go from casual to formal and not be too trendy but rather a classic piece that accentuates your outfit. When I see a man without a watch, it's as if something is missing.

## X

**Marks some of racing's greatest pleasures – luxe, excess and extra.** If anything, race days are the perfect excuse to take things to another level – statement suiting, fabulous colour, quirky hats and dramatic accessories. There are not many social settings which let you push style to the limit and reap the rewards from doing so!

## Y

**Young contemporary fashion.** With racing becoming increasingly more popular with the younger set – the fashion is also following suite. On-trend looks with inspiration drawn straight from the catwalk are prevalent and eye-catching ensembles are everywhere. Take note: the new era is raising the bar.

## Z

**And for the zillionth time** – when it comes to putting your look together – always aim to impress! As you endeavor to master the elusive art of looking effortless, focus on what works for you and unlock your style secrets.

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