



STYLED BY 90'S

By: Kara Lynch

They say imitation is the highest form of flattery and we often see this in music, literature, and fashion. Songs get remixed and works of literature get modernized. The film *10 Things I Hate About You* is the plot of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew" revamped for a 90's audience. Speaking of 90's, have you noticed a lot of 90's fashion trends are coming back? Today I'm going to break down the 90s style and how it's been remade for the millennial generation.

As we entered the **early** 90's, some 80's looks were recycled which meant sweatpants, t-shirts and color schemes inspired by pop art. Crop tops were popular for women as well as those obnoxious shoulder pads. Men's looks included denim overalls, striped sweaters and leather jackets. Toward the **mid** 90's, the oversized 80's were abandoned for more form fitting styles. Velvet blazers, animal prints and the classic Hawaii paisley pattern shirt became popular. The **late** 90's brought back the 70's style for women and business casual for men. For the ladies, this meant disco looks like leather pants, flared pants, platform shoes and halter tops. Men's

business casual included long sleeve button up shirts, sweaters, dress shoes and an optional tie. All black was a popular formal look for men.

I was born in 96 so I didn't have the opportunity to become a 90's fashionista until I did some research for this article in 2019. The 90's, like every fashion decade, included varieties and some biting off of other decades' looks. The different kinds of 90's styles include Grunge, Modern Preppy, Punk and Hip-Hop. Grunge is one of the most popular early 90's looks and rose to popularity likely as a result of grunge bands like Nirvana and Pearl Jam. Darker colored plaid flannel shirts, stonewashed/ripped jeans, combat boots and high top sneakers completed the look. If you watched *Saved by the Bell* or *Clueless* then you've seen the modern preppy look of plaid, sweaters, knee high boots, tartan skirts, khakis, navy blazers, sweaters, and button up shirts. Punk became popular in the mid to late 90's among skaters and Blink 182 followers. Punk included darker colored tee shirts, hoodies, boots, leather jackets and skate shoes. Lastly we have hip hop, a style heavily influenced by artists like MC Hammer and N.W.A. These looks featured wide leg jeans, tracksuits, bomber jackets, snapback hats and gold chains.

We see 90's trends coming back everywhere today, most notably among the Kardashians and Kanye West. West's clothing line features 90's looks and they've successfully brought back tiny framed sunglasses and hip hop tracksuits and bomber jackets. Some of their outfits seem to me like a hybrid 90's and *Back to the Future Part 2* look. How could we forget that scene in the film when Martie McFly is being chased on hover boards by Biff and his crew? Those are the outfits I'm talking about and honestly, totally not complaining. It's quite extraordinary that fashion can constantly evolve yet still look back for vintage inspiration. Whatever the decade, art, music and fashion are timeless.

SOURCE: <https://www.centralcasting.com/how-get-right-90s-look/>