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## ***UNIQUELY YOU*** ***Fabulous Spring Trends*** ***What I'm Excited About***

Dear Orene,

This is my big spring style trends issue. I want to discuss something I have been thinking about lately as I peruse the styles and trends in the magazines and stores. In my mind, I feel like I'm 30 and able to wear all of the current styles. But, reality is hitting me. Some of the new styles that I would be very excited about if I were twenty-something are just not age appropriate for me. In fact, as a general rule, if you dress too young, it actually makes you look older. Have you ever seen a woman from behind and thought she was in her 20s, only to have her turn around and see that she was much older? None of us want to look matronly, but none of us want to look like a "fashion victim" either. We all want to look youthful and current.

Here are some solutions to this dilemma.

1. Choose one trend at a time and modify the trend to suit you.
2. Make sure your clothes are not too tight but just right, There are two things that make a woman look matronly and older. One is wearing shapeless clothes that hide the body; the other is wearing clothes that are way too tight all over. It's important to fit your clothing to the curves of your body without looking

like you're wrapped in spandex (and leaving nothing to the imagination). Fit is crucial in looking confident and at ease.

3. Embrace your youthfulness. Dabbling in trends is a way to add this important element to your look. Your clothes can be classy while adding accessories that give your outfits some fun personality.

I hope you enjoy my take on the Spring Trends.

Enjoy!

*Orene*

### 5 Trends, 5 Ways

#### White

1. Layer your whites.



Wear a high neck, transparent white top over a white scoop-neck tank.

2. Create a column of white with a flowy white pant with a crocheted linen sweater. Add shoes and a handbag in gray, taupe or powdery pale pastels.
3. Make your next pair of statement sunglasses stand out in white frames.
4. Spring into the season with a white jacket or coat. Try a bomber jacket, a jean jacket, or a voluminous cocoon coat in a pearly shade of white.
5. Give your black and brown belts a rest this season and wear a white

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#### What I'm Excited About

##### Stripes.

Why? It's a great investment. This print will easily be fashionable this year, next year and five years from now. In black and white, it's classic. In navy and white, it's nautical. In yellow and turquoise it's playful. Red and black stripes are dramatic. A striped handbag is ultra cute. Some great-looking dresses have very wide vertical stripes.



##### The new leather.

It's lightweight, comfortable, in great colors and is a perfect item to reach for in early spring. It's a luxe fabric that has a big impact. Choose your spring leather item in a dress, skirt, or jacket.



belt instead. It's perfect worn over a tunic or any summer dress.

### **Transparent/peekaboo fabrics**

1. Save your 90s grunge



flannel for your fashion museum. Instead look for a transparent plaid or floral print blouse. Roll the sleeves to the elbow and pair with a boyfriend jean for the day and a long, flowy skirt for night.

2. Put away the open plunging neckline this year. Instead go for a high-necked satin blouse with lace insets with a nude camisole liner. The effect is sexy without being revealing.

3. A classic, conservative sheath dress is updated with peekaboo inserts at the midriff, shoulder, or back. This is classic style with a twist is great for cocktail parties or summer weddings.

4. Get your transparency fix with accessories. A Lucite cuff is simple and



### **Lace dresses.**

You might have purchased one during the winter to wear with tights and boots. Now you can wear it with low heels and your toughest leather jacket for a perfect mix of masculine/feminine. Or wear a black lace dress over a colorful slip for some fun color play.

### **Bright, clean and fresh colors.**

For eye-popping color combinations mix tangerine and cherry red, lilac and nectarine, maritime blue and margarita green. Or keep it classic with black and white, or navy and red, or sand and navy. Mix classic colors with bold ones in combos such as navy and lemon zest, linen and emerald, or black and flamingo pink. Whichever way your color wheel turns this spring, it will land on something juicy.

### **Casual clothing items in non-casual fabrics.**

Have fun this season wearing Bermuda shorts to the office if they are worn with a matching cropped jacket in satin. For weekend wear, try a summer dress in lightweight leather with perforated details. A bomber jacket in a floral silk print is another playful casual-but-not-casual choice.

### **Chambray cotton shirts.**

In the same way jeans are easy, so is this shirt. This year it is especially cute styled with a bright colored pencil skirt or swingy skirt, kitten heels, and pearls at the neck. Or for another look wear it with a white jean, a super colorful scarf and a stack of leather bracelets at the wrist.



### **Black and white.**

This classic color combination can be mixed and matched in dozens of ways. This might be a year to add a few pieces in interesting textures. Classic colors look rich when you mix different textures within the same outfit. Think shiny, dull, shimmery, and/or nubby. Consider materials such as tulle, lace, leather, transparency, or gauze. Black and white prints can make major or minor statements depending on the size.

Let me help you get excited about your spring wardrobe.

uncluttered, perfect when wearing bright colors or wild prints. A transparent clutch is a trendy option if you are willing to show your contents.

5. Peekaboo cutouts in leather heels or flats can add a feminine touch.

### **Graphic prints**

1. Wear one bold graphic print on top and wear a smaller scaled version of the same print on the bottom. Consider prints in checkerboards, polka dots, or stripes.
2. A big, bold floral print in a mid-calf full skirt goes well with the simplest of tops.
3. Loose harem pants in polka dots are unexpected and fun. Pair with a simple oxford white blouse
4. Don't be afraid to mix prints. Try a long plaid tunic with a floral legging in similar hues. The colors will be harmonious so you don't have to worry about graphic overload.
5. Prints can be mighty in small doses. A photo-montage print top gets plenty of attention when paired with your favorite solid-colored pantsuit.

There's so much out there to enjoy. Let's put the right pieces together for you. Whether we shop in your closet or in the stores, I know you'll be thrilled with the results. Call me, let's make an appointment.

## **Five Ways to be Comfy and Fashionable This Spring**

### **1. Bermuda shorts or culottes**

Put away the short-shorts from last year and pull on these knee-grazing shorts. The loose fit will keep you cool. Pair it with a jacket and you could even go to work in it. If it's the most casual piece in your outfit, make sure the rest of the pieces aren't sloppy.



### **2. Low heels**

The kitten pump is back. Wear this low-heeled, pointy-toed pump with rolled up boyfriend jeans. Try them with your new leather sheath dress or skirt.

### **3. The maxi dress**

Do you want a look that's as comfy as a nightgown? Slip into a maxi dress in a bold print in blue, red, or green. Pair with a cropped jacket to create more shape. Your jacket could be in denim, leather, or linen. A large tote is the perfect balance for the long silhouette.

### **4. The poncho top**

Nothing is cooler than wearing a poncho-inspired top in silk or a cotton-polyester blend. Simply pull it over your head, slip your arms through the draped sleeve and enjoy how it floats and creates movement around your body. It's perfect for hot weather dressing especially if it's in a print. Say goodbye to perspiration marks! Because the top is fairly voluminous, keep the pant narrower and/or cropped.

### **5. Textured scarves**

An easy way to add style to your outfit is to add a summer weight scarf in linen, cotton, silk or a blend. Feel like



## **Emerald Green--the Color of the Year**

1. Emerald is the color



**of growth, luck and riches. It's a perfect color to wear in a handbag or clutch.**

2. An emerald-inspired necklace will make brown eyes look deeper and enhance green and blue eyes. Feel free to pair with matching earrings.

3. An emerald colored cocktail dress in a shiny silk is an adventurous substitute for the little black dress.

4. Find a stand-alone blouse in emerald. The color is vibrant and graphic. Just add simple gold jewelry and wear it with black.

5. Try wearing a shade of emerald on your nails. Your manicured nails will be the main attraction. There's no need to match them to clothing pieces.

**Ruffles**

adding color to your wardrobe but you're hesitant? Don't buy a whole pantsuit in a bold color. Just find that bold color in a scarf! Interested in playing with prints but you're somewhat timid? Add a floral print or a geometric print in a scarf. It will make your basics come to life.

### **COMPLIMENTARY CHAT**

Sometimes you may feel that you are in a fashion rut or that you are looking frumpy and it is time to look more up-to-date. You may not have much time nor inclination to figure out how to put together items you already have in your closet in a new way. Being busy doesn't always allow you time for shopping. Or, perhaps you don't know where to shop to maximize your dollar.

Wouldn't it be helpful to have an expert who can help you with all of this? If you are ready to take some action, schedule a free initial conversation with me by [clicking here](#) and we can explore your challenges and goals.

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### **Lace and Ruffle Dress**

1. Enjoy a flouncy ruffle at the neckline of a simple dress.
2. For an understated sexy look, wear a sheer button up blouse with ruffles along the placket.
3. A ruffled peplum detail at the hipline of a skirt can add curves to your silhouette.
4. Keep ruffles in solid colors for more feminine conservative looks.  
Wear ruffles in floral or geometrical prints for a more playful look.
5. Feeling flirty? Try a flamingo-inspired skirt with ruffle detailing along the hemline.

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