

# THE KEY FUR TRENDS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL RUNWAYS

## Ready-to-Wear Autumn/Winter 2011-12

The international runways gave us a renewed sense of optimism for autumn/winter 2011-12 as we saw a surge of confidence underpinning the key looks for the season ahead with colour and a return to luxury furs leading the way.

### Trend Overview 1 – Colour

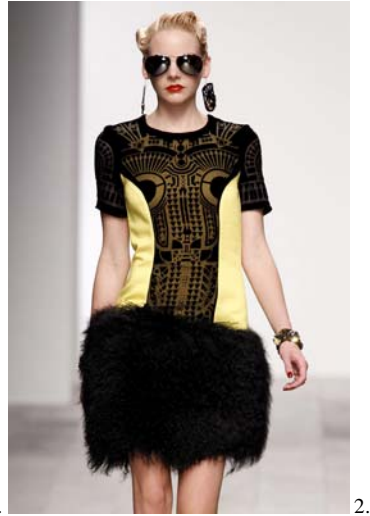


1. Blugirl
2. Gucci
3. Haakan
4. Emanuel Ungaro
5. Philosophy
6. Louis Vuitton

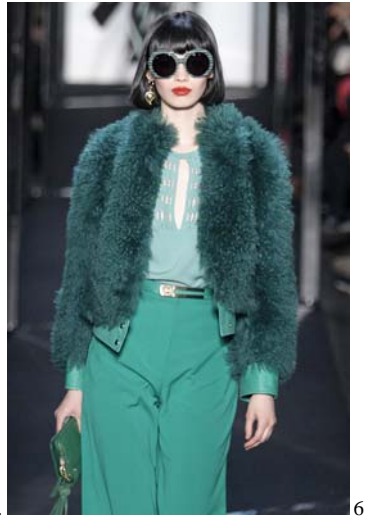


Colour was one of the most exciting and newest trends to emerge from the runways as designers opted for a palette of vivid playful brights, soft frosted pales and a range of intensely saturated jewel tones. Most commercial colours highlighted here are the use of poppy red, bright teal and the darker mallard green shades, all worked on luxe full-piled furs. Keys shapes to note are the vintage-style chubbie jackets with 40s and 70s overtones, both key eras for inspiration next winter.

## Trend Overview 2 – A Vintage Year



1. Mui Mui
2. Holly Fulton
3. Prada
4. Philosophy
5. Gucci
6. Diane von Furstenberg



Vintage influences were the strongest trend direction from all four of the fashion capitals as designers opted for the safety net of the past for inspiration. The 20s and 30s were a strong tipping point for looks that concentrated on plush fur trims and dropped waist silhouettes and with the upcoming Madonna directed movie, *WE*, based on Wallis Simpson and the Prince of Wales, this is an era to watch. The 60s and 70s were the other key style decades plundered for next winter, an era currently the subject of an exhibition in Paris celebrating the golden years of YSL's Rive Gauche.

## Trend Overview 3 – Key Furs



1. Acne
2. Brioni
3. Just Cavalli
4. Rick Owens
5. Ralph Rucci
6. Ann Demuelemeester



The season's mood of confidence also came through in the dramatic furs that headlined on the runways. It was all about the extravagant texture of furs like goat and Mongolian lamb – both fitting retro 60s and 70s silhouettes – or the elegant luxury of full furs like fox and mink, key to the vintage 30s and 40s looks permeating the season. Key silhouettes include the cropped jacket, especially in fox, the big shrug-on chubbie coat or jacket and the cape. There was also a huge amount of lamb in every texture and weight, worked into commercial sports-driven looks like the shell top and zip-up coat.

## Trend Overview 4 – Collaged Furs



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Yves Saint Laurent
2. Basso
3. Pringle
4. Aquilano Rimondi
5. Celine
6. Marni

And the mood of confidence came through too in the bold use of mixed furs, as designers collaged contrasting textures together to create textural dimension within a silhouette. That means flat silky furs like Swakara combined with mink, arctic fox with sheared mink and feathered fox or dyed mink with the opposing texture of furs like racoon. Watch also for colour-blocking as part of this look, especially the bold geometric Constructivist-inspired looks as seen at Celine, fitting the season's mood for all things 30s.

## Trend Overview 5 – Contrast Sleeves



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Versace
2. Peter Som
3. Sonia Rykiel
4. Dries van Noten
5. Burberry
6. Cynthia Steffe

A little bit of fur went a long way this season – another bold confident look as designers worked woven or leather silhouettes with the dramatic contrast of full fur sleeves. The mood fits with the 40s influences underpinning the season with strong shoulder emphasis. Key combinations include, fox with snakeskin, trench coat styling with fox sleeves, luxe cashmere with toning Mongolian lamb, sheared furs with knitted sleeves and decorative cloqués or brocades with furs like mink, nutria or squirrel.

## Trend Overview 6 – Fox Trims



1. Sonia Rykiel
2. Krizia
3. Gucci
4. Prada
5. Sharon Wauchob
6. Mathew Williamson



The season's vintage influences put emphasis on fox fur trims as a key trend for next winter. Think full fox collars and capelets, shrugs, tippetts and stoles to add an injection of authentic retro glamour, worked in the season's brights or in natural pelt shades.