

Sophisticated Accessories That Are Just The Right Touch

Last year, flashy belts that resembled those popular in the 1980s were fashionable. Today, they seem hopelessly dated as skinny belts have become more popular. Fashion designers love the more feminine appearance of the skinny belt, which can be worn well above the waist to improve a woman's silhouette. When coupled with a free-flowing dress, chunky knit sweater, or loose knit shirt, they make an effective pair. You will even see many suit jackets being made with belt loops, so that they can be cinched in against the torso to emphasize a woman's shape.

The corset-sized, rib bruiser belts of 2007 certainly had their appeal, but were found to be lacking when it came to simple comfort. These new, thinner belts are subtler than those of last year, but they boast the same bright colored flair, patterns, and embellishments. Those who pine for an extra long version need not fret: those are available as well and can be looped at the end, in all their '80s glory.

Another must-have accessory is the clutch purse. They are all the rage this year. Fashionable people everywhere seem to be carrying them. I personally love how they instantly dress up any clothing ensemble that I put together. Oversized clutches are not just for formal events anymore. They can go everywhere now.

While you can't pack as many of your necessities into them, I find it freeing to lose the clutter and weight of the huge hobo style bags of last year. The sizes were getting so out of hand that they began to resemble overnight bags. Whether it was there or not, my ability to find anything in the hobo bag was hindered by the other 3,000 individual items stuffed into that monstrosity.

The top designers such as Burberry, Donna Karan, Marc Jacobs, Michael Kors, and Fendi have been extremely hot on the use of clutches and belts this season, but if you can't afford these name items try Steve Madden, H&M or Forever 21. Last season's hot accessories were hardly accessories as we know them. They totally dominated the clothes they were supposed to accent. However, the past is the past and is now being replaced by sophisticated and chic styles in 2008.

About the Author

You can get the latest discounts on women's apparel here: [Women's Clothes](#). Andrea writes about [Online Shopping Discounts](#) at <http://www.discountsonline.com>

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