

Palo Alto fashion trends going retro

By Jose Casarez
Pulse Staff Reporter

Fashion is an art form. It's not about labels. Fashion is all about developing a personal style, not just heading out to the mall and believing that you're buying style.

Reading fashion blogs, magazines and watching television shows are a great way to develop your personal style. With Fashion Weeks occurring all over the globe, it's time that you become your own fashion expert and learn how to create your own style.

"For me, fashion is not what's on the runway. It's what I feel comfortable in, but I still base my wardrobe on what's trendy," said Megan Beeding, a sophomore Biology major.

Who said you have to spend your whole paycheck on a single outfit? Shopping smart is something everyone needs to learn how to do.

Women's fall/winter trends include fur, velvet, leather and knitwear. Stores like Old Navy, Macy's, Kohl's, Forever 21, Target and Ross offer great fashion for less. Some of these stores have collaborated with designers such as Vera Wang, Zac Posen and Lauren Conrad.

"I love fashion," said sophomore Psychology Major Amber Erickson. "It represents who I am. It shows my personality."

"Military will once again be a trend for this fall, but this time it's sophisticated. I got myself a pair of Army green-lined boots. It's now a trend that's fun and less complex," said sophomore Psychology Major Ariana Castillo.

This fall/winter it's time to add some variety to your wardrobe. Velvet will offer variety because of its rich color and texture. Leather will once again be making an appearance this season. From leather jackets to leather leggings, this fall/winter leather will be an essential piece in your wardrobe.

"I don't like to follow trends," said English Major Susan DeHoyos. "It's just something I'm not interested in... I just love being comfortable."

Knitwear will also make an appearance this fall/winter. Knit sweaters, knit scarves and knit boots are the key pieces to this



Palo Alto has very fashionable students (and some very fashionable Palominos).

Photo by Jose Casarez

trend. Not only will it be a popular trend but a comfortable one as well.

Fashion blogger Maurizio Müller said that men's suits are an upcoming trend, not only for formal events but casual everyday wear.

Freshman History Major Orlando DeHoyos questions fashion. "I like the suit idea, but isn't that out of style?"

Suits have never really been out of style. Young men have begun mirroring the style of their grandfathers, with everything from bow ties to suspenders.

The men's military fashion trend comes back this season; however, this time it's more appealing and stylish. Aviator boots and a military coat are the perfect items to indulge this trend.

Men's velvet is not just a trend but also a fall essential. Many men don't feel comfortable with velvet, but they shouldn't fear it, wearing it with confidence is the key to making velvet work. Shopping for these trends is not as hard as it seems.

Forever 21 is also a great place for men to shop. The new location at North Star Mall has a section especially for men. Old Navy and Gap also offer male fashion for less. Kohl's offers suits for a reasonable price and is a great place to find all the fall/

winter essentials.

One of the keys to "Fashion On A Budget" is understanding the quality of what you buy. Goodwill, Plato's Closet and Buffalo Exchange are great places to find inexpensive fashion. If you don't know the quality of the clothing, you may overlook how good it is. However, just because something is really cheap, it doesn't mean you need it. Always make wise decisions about your clothing. When going shopping, always take a good friend who will be completely honest with you. A friend who will say, "That doesn't look good on you" or "You already have that." (And help you in the long run.)

You must understand how clothing wears on your body, if it fits or doesn't fit you. Never buy anything that doesn't fit you just because it was the last one on the rack. When you understand your body type, you can choose the clothing that expresses your style, personality and character.

Style transmits who you are, your personality and your appeal to other people. It is not how much you spend on an outfit, but how you wear the outfit that makes the difference. Remember it's not the clothes that make the person; it's the person who makes the clothes.