

### Sunglasses and UV rays

For years, sunglasses have been considered a very popular fashion accessory, and the function they serve, providing protection from the sun, is also important. During the summer we see more of them.

However, there is a popular misconception that when the sun is soft during the winter or when the days are cloudy, the need for sunglasses goes away. Actually, it is an important shield for the eye whether you are stuck in a traffic jam somewhere in Dhaka during the summer or spending holidays somewhere beautiful, taking pleasure in monsoon.



### Even on a cloudy day...

the UV rays of the sun may still be high. Ophthalmologists now believe that long hours in the sun without proper eye protection increase the chances of developing eye diseases. With a sunglass protecting the eye from UV rays and you looking good at the same time, monsoon should be a trendy season.

### Choosing the right sunglass

The task of choosing the right sunglasses is tricky. It must be stylish, yet practical enough to protect the eye. For style one should consider the shape of the face, skin colour and hair cut. For protection, however, go for those that block both UV-A and UV-B. Always choose the wrap-around, close fitting ones as they provide the maximum protection even from the sides. Plastic lenses are best for rough use, as they do not break easily.



### People with contact lenses

People with contact lenses need sunglasses too. Humidity and dust can cause serious damage to the eyes with contacts. In Bangladesh as both these elements exist in a high level the risk is even greater. Sunglasses can serve well to the people with contacts. They must have to have sunglasses that fit well. It will prevent the sun, wind and dust from getting into the eye area.

### For children's as well

Children's wearing sunglasses is not something we see very often but they need it as well. Children's eyes are more vulnerable to UV radiation than adults because they usually spend more time outdoors playing and their eyes let more UV rays in. Although the children of Dhaka do not get the chance of playing in the playgrounds that much, for those who live in other districts the chances are still there. The earlier children start wearing sunglasses the better their chances of avoiding major eye problems later in life.



By Shahnaz Parveen

## Blue Bath, the shop

If you're planning on buying an apartment or a house and you need bathroom fittings that are unique and tastefully done, Blue Bath is the place to go. Situated in Hatirpool (diagonally opposite to Eastern Plaza), this bathroom fitter imports quality products from Spain and Dubai. While the fittings may cost you a pretty penny more than the general fittings available all over, quality is guaranteed along with products that are one-of-a-kind and only available at Blue Bath. The store sells Jacuzzis, shower cubicles, shower panels, tiles, basins and commodes. These are set up in such a way that if you have trouble visualising how they'll look when set up, the little niches with the fitted tiles and matching bowl-n-basin

inside the shop will tell you how.

The décor and products are not the only things that make Blue Bath different from other bathroom fitters. It is also their sales representatives and their sense of customer service that give the store a boost. They have enough staff so that each customer gets individual attention and enough customers can be attended to at a time.

As mentioned earlier, the products do cost a pretty penny but a home is a long-term commitment. Then why cheat yourself out of quality, durability and guarantee when a little extra will get you all that and a gorgeous bathroom? If you're still pondering, then give Blue Bath a visit and decide for yourself.

By Tahiat-e-Mahboob

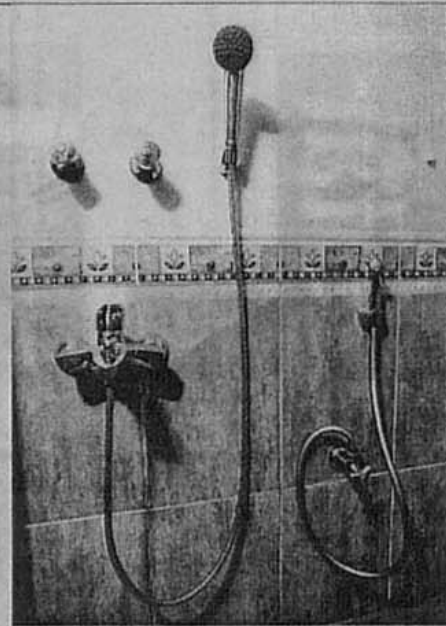


Photo Courtesy Journeyman

SHOP TALK



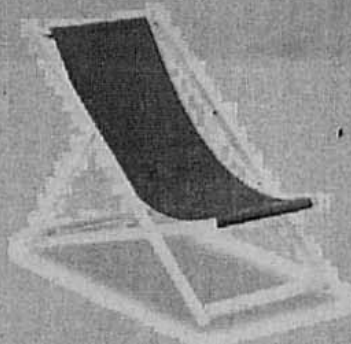
### School toys

A child often has enough imagination to turn a scale into a shark, an eraser into a military tank and a half eaten egg into a particular school teacher. All this is then twisted into an intricate plot where the egg eventually blows up all over the place to be eaten by the shark. That's just one of the countless scenarios. School equipment is now available that looks a lot like their imaginary products giving them more time to spend on fine tuning the plots. There are sharpeners that look like Volkswagen Beetles, birds, whistles, bears etc. You get tiny cases looking like cameras containing erasers and paper clips. Then there are erasers that have a plastic cap that blinks when twisted and is shaped like an animal. All these are available at PQS and New Market within the rage of 15-30 taka. And of course there is the scale that looks like a shark.



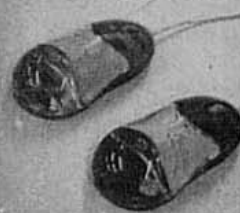
### Folding chairs for kids

Folding deck chairs for the tiny ones can be found at Royal Traders and a few other shops in New Market for 250-300 taka per piece. These have a metal frame draped with cloth. Each comes with different cartoon motifs.



### Fishy mouse

Children are becoming more adept at using the computer than the grownups. A six year old came to my house and seriously bruised my ego after beating my previously unbeatable score at a computer game. Soon they will be controlling the whole world using computers. Paranoia aside, children are into computers now and it's a simple thing to make their equipment look nice. At PQS you can find a mouse that is partly made of transparent plastic filled with liquid where a plastic fish merrily bobs away. It's 620 taka. Incidentally mouse pads depicting cartoon characters and cars are available at around 50-100 taka a piece at all computer stores. It's great for the big kids as well.



### Gift bag

At the baby supply stores in New Market you can find a really cute gift bag that is shaped like a big feeding bottle. There are two sizes with each containing feeders, teething rings, noisy distracting rattlers, bowl, bib etc. Actually it is more for the new borns parents than for the baby itself. Price range is 300-500 taka.

### A baby's throne

A baby during feeding time is the king. Everyone does all kinds of silly things just to keep him happy and fed. There is the court jester (probably father or older sibling) who jumps around with a rattle making weird faces while the mother acts as the minister trying to feed disagreeable ideas (such as how good the cereal tastes). The king, or queen for that matter, spits out the food with one loud squelch. What the highness needs is an appropriate throne. High chairs with small table in front can be bought from New Market at 1200-1500 taka. These are made of metal frame with plastic tops. Wooden ones can be made with similar money.



### Quick snack

Peanut butter is 140-200 taka a jar and can be found at all the food stores. Give it to a kid and it will be put to use with almost anything ranging from biscuits, cakes, bread, chocolate, fingers and whatnot. With bread add some jelly and snack time become a lot less boring.

### Fight Body Odour

The days are humid and people sweat more during this season than any other time of the year. Body odour is a common problem faced by us during the sticky days of June/July. But our local stores are just teeming with deodorants of all sorts and sizes. As for guys, Playboy and Denim have been all time favourites. Each can of Playboy and Denim will usually cost you tk.130; Nivea will cost you about tk.140. Rexona has also become a popular name in the world of deodorants, each tube of Rexona Deo cream and roll-on will cost you tk.60. Also check out the Fa Deo Roll-on collection in awesome fragrance of Spring Flower, Aqua, Green Tea and so much more. Each bottle of Fa deodorant will cost you between tk.110 to tk.120. These deodorants are available in almost all the stores of New Market, Rifles Square, Metro Shopping Mall, PQS, and Rapa Plaza. At the branches of Almas General Store and Priyo, you will come across a really wide range of deos of different expensive brands like St. Michael, Hugo Boss and many more. But mind you that you can always haggle over the price and get away with a cheap deal.



### Hair Gel

To bring that stylish look to their hair many people just love to apply hair gel. To create spiky hair and carry that hip-hop air with you, hair gel is becoming essential indeed. Check out the popular chain superstores of Dhaka, Rifles Square and New Market to get a container of Gatsby at around tk.150. But if you are looking for a brand that can be used by both men and women, look for Unisex that is available between tk.100 to tk.110.

By Ehsanur Raza Ronny