

Sunglasses

— the ultimate summer accessory

One of those rare accessories that blend function and fashion, sunglasses are indeed saviours in the summer heat. Not only do they add dimension to a face, but also protect the eyes from the harmful UV rays of the sun. In fact, it is this balance between style and functionality that makes sunglasses such an essential and yet fun part of an outfit. Just imagine all the options available — colours, frames, and lenses — the variety is indeed endless!

It is no surprise that shades reflect a part of our personalities. You could opt for the classic aviators when you are dressing to impress, or go for a pair of goofy, futuristic shades during a casual day out with friends.

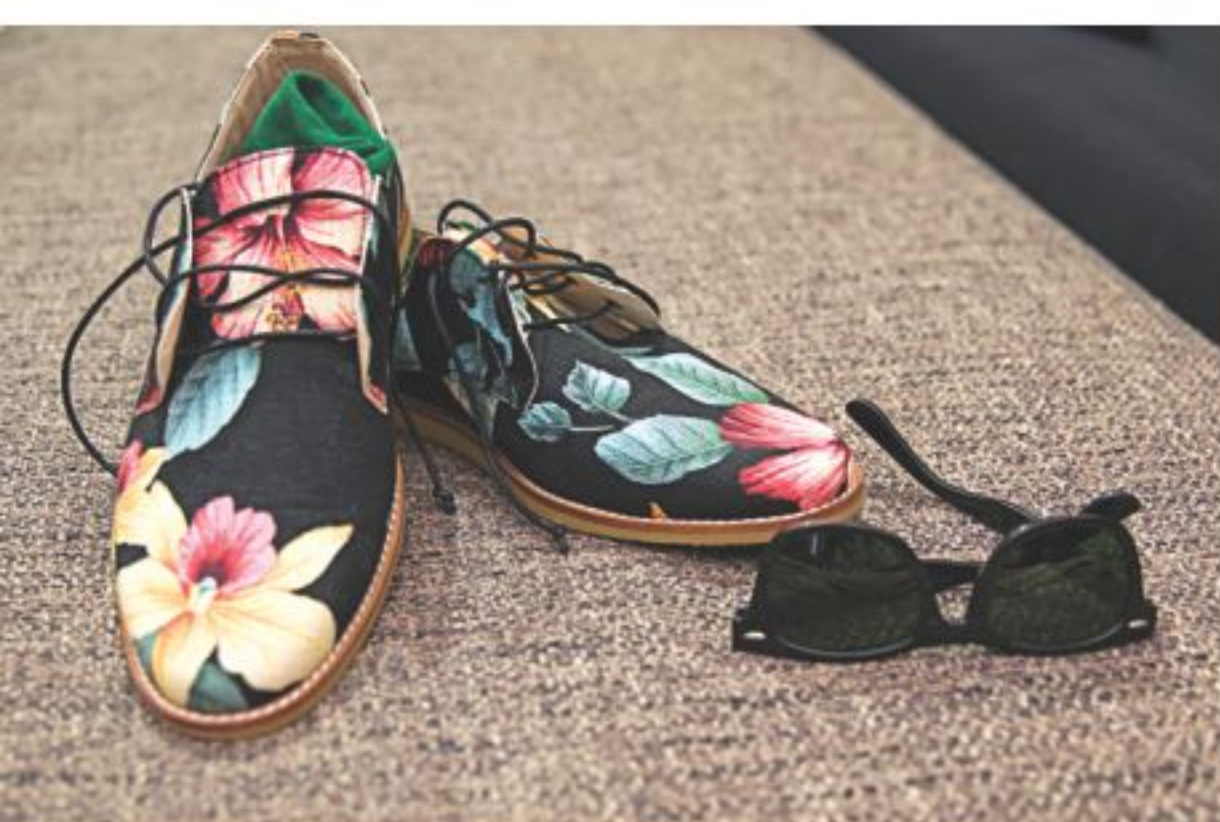
Choosing the right pair of shades is more than just about popping a pair to add a bit of sass to your outfit. Before venturing out, first study the shape of your face and then pick a pair to contrast that structure. For instance, if you have a round shape, opt for rectangular or square shades.

Alternatively, those with a square shape should go for aviators or butterflies.

However, do not be shy to experiment. Different outfits go with different shades and once you learn to just have fun with it, you will find yourself gracefully navigating through the world of sunglasses!

THE TORTOISE-SHELL FEVER

With a chic hipster vibe, the tortoise-shell frame is a must-have this season. Yes, these versatile frames are indeed back with their classic mottled yellow, brown, honey, and black tinged look. Compared to the monochrome frames, these are softer on the face,



and thus, serve as the ideal shortcut to instantly glam up your outfit.

Women could opt for a cute butterfly tortoiseshell shade for a preppy vibe, while the men can jazz up their classic aviator shades with the tortoiseshell frame just like the '50s when they were first a hit!

THE OVERSIZED

With a bit of a movie-star allure, oversized shades, first popularised in the '60s, remain in style although they have been around for a few seasons already. What better way to draw attention to your beautiful eyes if not by flaunting your oversized cat-eye or round sunglasses?

While picking this type of sunglasses, make sure the frame sits comfortably on your face without touching the cheeks and it

provides you with good coverage under and around the eyes.

In fact, oversized shades have an extra advantage, as they give more protection to your eyes than the usual sunglasses.

THE DOUBLE WIRED AND THE EMBELLISHED

Once considered retro, the double-wired rims have now been re-imagined into the ultimate fashion icon. Whether you choose a round, square, rectangle or cat-eye frames, double wire rimmed sunglasses will definitely accentuate your features, giving you a modern elegant look. Add a bit of floral and stud accents on, and you are runway ready!

STATEMENT SHADES

Statement sunglasses include everything from funky



colours to quirky geometric shapes! Sunglasses with vibrant lenses seem to make a splash for this summer. One such hot favourite includes the oversized yellow shades. With its futuristic hipster appeal, these vibrant pairs are perfect for the hot afternoons. Moreover, cat eye sunglasses with cooler blue or purple lenses are also quite sought after, and can complement both traditional and western wear. In fact, if you are bold enough, why not try out the quirky geometric shapes. Yes, the pentagons and the heart-shapes are hardly off-limits anymore!

Now, where exactly do you start your search for the perfect pair of shades? A good starting point is Elephant Road, but you could also check out Farmgate. If you want something a bit high-end, stores such as Urban Truth and Ecstasy also have an extensive range of perky shades for you to choose from.

You could also opt for online stores such as Opal Fashion Wear although, getting the right fit without trying them on first may prove a little difficult. No matter what you choose, remember all that you need is confidence to turn any pair of shades into the ultimate glam accessory!

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Photo: LS Archive/Sazzad Ibne Sayed

