

How To Do Spring's Color Trend

Spring is that time of year when everything from the flowers to your wardrobe bursts into all-new colors. But doing a bright and colorful look involves more than just throwing on different colored pieces and hoping that everything turns out all right. There's some skill involved to make yourself look like an *artiste* instead of an art class accident.

Dressing colorfully for your age is all about following a simple rule of thumb: the lighter and softer the color, the younger you'll look. It's a good idea for a casual day out, but not the best one for more refined gatherings. Conversely, deeper, stronger colors will make you look more mature (but not necessarily older) – the safe route for dressier events.

For example, this subdued canary yellow little crossover dress from *Elie Saab* would be so elegant on a twenty something socialite, yet hardly flattering for someone twice that age. The latter woman might look better in the 1920's-inspired *Marc by Marc Jacobs* dress in the stronger orange color. While both are equally sophisticated and Sunday brunch-worthy, there's definitely an age group for each one.

No matter what age you might be, always keep your look limited to just one bold and bright color. After that, dress up in black, white or neutral tones. Remember, the point of wearing bright colors in the first place is to make that color pop out. Wearing too many colors at once will make you look more like an explosion than a pop, and that's never a good thing.

Get some pointers from the ever-elegant *Michael Kors* with his styling on this long drop-waist dress in luscious rouge. Aside from the scarlet color of the dress and the shoes, everything else is kept to a discreet white. The point is to keep all those other details understated, emphasize the red color the model's wearing and thus keep the look coherent.

When dressing yourself up in bright colors, always think about the occasion and how to dress appropriately for it. And before going out, never forget to check yourself out in the mirror under good lighting. If it looks questionable, change your outfit. The only 'bad' thing about bold colors is that your faux pas can literally be seen from a mile off.