

# Reporter: A Question Of Style



Celebrity stylist Karen Ng answers your fashion queries



Fashion details near the neckline will create interest and draw attention to the face.

**Q** I want to make over my working wardrobe, which I've had for 15 years. What are the basic colours and clothes I should invest in to freshen up my sales image? **Lilian**

**A** It's definitely time for a drastic overhaul. Get out of your comfort zone, be creative and get your entire wardrobe revamped. But before you do this, embark on a style analysis of yourself, taking into consideration your age, body shape, lifestyle, personality and objectives in life. Ask yourself what new looks you wish to try: Edgy, sophisticated or sultry. Check out websites like Style.com to get an update on the current season's fashion and what celebs wear to discover the looks you aspire to achieve. Jot down the details of the ensembles you favour, examine your wardrobe to see what's missing and what do you get? Your new shopping list! I'm sure you have bought a lot of basics in the past 15 years, so you can move on to the next step. Being in sales, you need to capture people's attention so that they'll be interested in talking to you. Dress to impress by donning statement pieces like eye-catching tops in bright colours, detailed blouses or blazers, interesting necklaces, dresses with detailed necklines or striking brooches. Notice that the above items concentrate on your upper body, drawing attention to your face. As for colours, the neutrals are white, brown, grey, navy, beige and black. Match these with vibrant colours like tangerine, fuchsia, regal purple or midnight blue and *voila!* You're now the new and improved Lillian.

**Q** Is patent leather breathable? And how can it be as comfortable as regular leather if it feels like plastic?

**Meilin**

**A** Regrettably, it's not all that breathable. That's because of the hand-finished varnish that gives it its much desired high-gloss effect. Unlike regular leather which softens and cracks as it ages, patent leather always retains its smooth finish. This makes it a good investment as it is long-lasting and the more you wear it, the more comfortable it will feel.

If your concerns are about patent footwear, the material used for the lining, the overall finish and the workmanship are important factors. Therefore, opt for trusted brand names as they will ensure a quality product. Personally, I love patent leather because it is so versatile and makes you look trendy, modern and chic. It can be matched with any colour and makes a fabulous statement piece because of its rich and glossy texture. Match it with existing pieces in your wardrobe and it will conjure up a completely new look. The benefits are numerous, so take a chance on patent leather. It will pull your entire outfit together and give it an edge with its brilliant polished shine. •

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Lilian, you have won for yourself a Dancia™ mother-of-pearl and diamond necklace, worth \$378, from Soo Kee Jewellery.

## WANT EXPERT FASHION ADVICE?

### JUST WRITE IN TO

daniel\_goh@mediacorp.com.sg with your question and put "A Question Of Style" in the subject heading. Please include your I/C and contact numbers. You get savvy advice and could win a great prize.



Keep it conservative with a patent leather trench in neutrals.

Hugo Boss