

Reporter: A Question Of Style



Celebrity stylist Karen Ng answers your fashion queries

Q Chinese New Year is around the corner and red is always the popular colour this time of year. But I often find it hard to match clothes without looking tacky. What Chinese New Year outfits should I wear to make me stand out? **Ann Noi**

A Dear Ann Noi,

Everyone admires a woman who stands out for the right reasons, so this festive season, let's make them sit up and take note! As you rightly mentioned, red is the prevailing favourite but if you ask me, it's not the only choice. Instead you could opt for gold which symbolises good luck, yellow for success and prosperity, or orange which indicates wealth.

Even non-traditional New Year colours can be worn if you're feeling adventurous so long as they include oriental motifs, prints, embroidery, mandarin collars or *cheongsam*- styled outfits in order to reflect the festival's spirit.

To really set yourself apart from the crowd, accessorise your outfit. Start with fine jewellery like diamond or pearl studs. If that doesn't suit your budget then go for the wonderful array of gold and oriental-themed costume jewellery available out there. Bags and shoes with Chinese prints and patterns can also dramatically transform an outfit.

Last but not least, style your hair into a sleek bun or chignon to achieve the complete oriental effect. *Voila!* A stylish and classy look for the coming new year.

Style: senior editor Daniel Goh says: You'd want to buy outfits that you can wear for the rest of the season. Luckily, this season sees a lot of brilliant, auspicious colours on runways so you'll be spoilt for choice! If indeed you pick a firecracker red outfit, make sure your makeup is pared-down and natural-looking, not mask-like. :

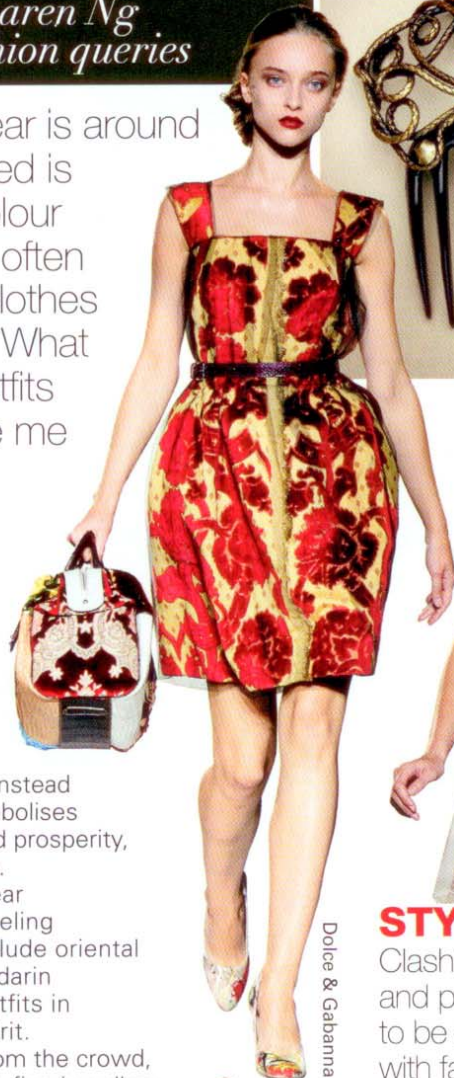
STYLE TIP

Jade-like colours are classy if paired smart. Think clean silhouettes over OTT prints and textures.

Amazonite and 925 silver earrings, \$38, from **Si-Rock And Soul**.



Dolce & Gabbana



Antique brass hair comb, price unavailable, **Bottega Veneta**.



STYLE TIP

Clashing colours and prints are to be attempted with fashionable caution.



Leather strappy sandal, price unavailable, **Yves Saint Laurent**.



Prada Spring/Summer '08



Minaudiere with crystal clasp, price unavailable, **Yves Saint Laurent**.

Handmade cracked turquoise necklace, \$188, by **Si-Rock And Soul**.



STYLE TIP

Turquoise lends an Oriental flavour and elegance.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ann Noi, you have won for yourself a pair of **Dancia™** pearl earrings worth \$268 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.

