

## **Jumpsuits - Keep them in the 70's, or an underrated fashion gem?**

by Charlotte Merriman.

When someone says jumpsuits it becomes natural to think of them as an eclectic 70's fashion faux, looking back at old photo's we just think what were they thinking? Yet back then, they were an ultimate must have in a fashion conscious wardrobe, and it once again looks like there back for spring/summer '08!

They have appeared on the catwalks in the recent few season yet never been taken seriously – until now. In the past they have always been tight fitting, while taking a harsh effect on every lump and bump, so unless you had the body of a clothes hanger it was for your own safety, (and other peoples), that you stayed away.

This on the other hand, is no longer the case, after spending a few decades at the back of designers minds, they have been brought back, re-vamped and seen on the catwalks of Stella McCartney, Bottega Veneta, and Donna Karen with surprising results, and looks to compliment our best bits, and cover our worst.

When investing in one, don't make the mistake of buying a parachute style as it can make you appear twice the size, while making you look like a shopping bag. Go for silk, satin, or cool cotton in a slouchy style as they are very slimming – which is what we all want to hear! It will also make you look gorgeous while appearing effortless.

The beauty of wearing a jumpsuit is you can be ready for anything the day throws at you – team with flats during the day and bring out those killer heels at night! Complement this by keeping makeup to a minimum with only a hint of mascara and a nude colour lip gloss, and at night just add some liquid eyeliner, a bit of bronzer and a necklace – there lies a completely new look in under two minutes!

However while being described as being 'versatile and comfy' by the 'Daily Telegraph' they haven't gone without criticism. Some have argued that they in fact aren't versatile at all, as you are set to the same on top and bottom, but sure that's a good thing not having to worry about what your going to where with what? Yet I understand that it could be considered part of the fun of getting dressed, deciding what to wear while the beauty of mixing and matching can create any look you desire as opposed to the jump suit where looks can be created, yet can be limited. Also it is great that it doesn't take long to get ready, but try having to practically undress every time you go to the loo then it can get quite frustrating!

Love them or Hate them, they look set to be massive this season and with summer just round the corner (despite the weather), opt for a shorts style version to show of your legs. However if you HATE your 'pins' with a vengeance, then go for a light cotton fabric to enable your legs to breathe. The full length jumpsuits may also suit you shorter lot, as it will create an elusion of length – especially if chosen in light colours.

Head down to Dorothy Perkins where you'll find a range of style, the one shown below, keeps with this season as it is wide legged and baggy, while Topshop also have a great range to chose from with a variety of price tags and budgets to suit all.