

Art Department



EVERY WOMAN
Donna Karan in
black? "Everyone
has enough black."
Dress: \$1,000
above, \$964.80.
© 2010 by Donna
Karan New York

THE RULES OF...
Heroine Dressing
by Donna Karan

Photography by Philippe Vigeant
Words by Jiv Casson

the art of style

Designer Donna Karan is a woman who has mastered the art of getting dressed in the morning. At 60, she's attired simply in a black shirt and black skinny pants, with wide leather cuffs at her wrists and a giant black necklace made from twists of leather. She looks youthful without being inappropriate, stylish without being staid. "I have a system of what I like and what I don't like," she shrugs, "and it really doesn't change much from season to season."

The same philosophy of simplicity and ease has been at the heart of her design ethos since Karan first started out as a designer in the late 1980s. Born in Queens, New York, to a mother who was a model and a father who was a custom tailor, she has worked in fashion since the late 1960s when she took her first job with legendary American designer Anne Klein. After taking over the company when Klein passed away in 1974, Karan eventually founded her own label, which this year celebrates its 30th anniversary. "My goal has always been to make a difference in women's lives," the designer explains, sitting in the New York West Village loft that was the art studio of her late husband, Stephen Weiss. "I want to simplify everything because when you don't have to think about what you're wearing, you can get on with what really matters."

Karan - who is still very much at the helm of her eponymous brand, as well as her DKNY diffusion line, and the Urban Zen Foundation (an organization that combines her love of design with her philanthropic work) - has spent her career reinventing her "seven easy pieces", a capsule wardrobe comprised of the key items that every woman needs to take her from the school run to the office, from day to night, that remain favorites from season to season. Here Karan explains her rules of heroine dressing. >

PHOTOGRAPH BY THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOGRAPHY PAGE 8000



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FALL FASHION NOW

style everlasting

Whether you're 20, 30, 40, or beyond, you can age-proof your wardrobe with these timeless pieces. Superstylish Cat Deeley, host of *So You Think You Can Dance?*, models the new classics at The Carlyle, a forever-fashionable hotel in New York City.

▶ Photographs by Adam Fedderly

▶ **THE CAPE**
 Why should superheroes have all the fun? Throw this anytime topper over a slip dress or a slinky dress and off you go!
 Crow cape, \$298, jcrew.com; Talbots sweater, \$79.50, talbots.com; Elizabeth and James pants, saks.com; BCBG Max Azria clutch, \$198, bcbg.com; Footloose; New York Hat Co. hat, \$34, newyorkhatco.com; Strenesse truck leather and metal bracelet, \$120, at Pamela Footloose, 904-274-4033, shopthelook.net; leather bracelet, \$15, shopthelook.net

▶ **THE LEOPARD CARDI**
 Make like Cat and wear this classic animal print in a fresh and modern way.
 Warmington by CCRaney cardigan, \$24, jcrew.com; CK One shirt, \$69.50, macys.com; for shoes; J Brand pants, \$200, nordstrom.com; for shoes; Jennifer Fisher hummingbird necklace, \$640, jenniferfisherjewelry.com; necklace by Doyle & Doyle citrus necklace, \$450, doyleanddoyle.com; Karen Walker ton ton necklace, \$840, karenwalker.com; Collette belt, \$110, 212-719-4088; Sibina for W Hotels' Global Glam cuff, \$150, wholesthestore.com; Elizabeth and James ring, \$295, saks.com

▶ **THE LUXE PARKA**
 A faux fur hood and a water-cinching belt make this puffy puffer look sophisticated.
 French Connection parka, \$248, frenchconnection.com; Lands' End Canvas belt, \$44.50, landsend.com; Sheshty for W Hotels' Global Glam cuff, \$65, wholesthestore.com; KUSHfoot tights, \$9, kushfoot.com

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About the Whole
 Turn-of-the-
 Jacket Thing...
 This look has been the
 epitome of big-brother
 confidence since
 legendary producer
 Floored™ was conceived.
 • You don't have
 to have been created
 The Outlander
 to make it work.
 • There's 1702
 turn-of-the-
 jacket \$275
 and every \$200
 down
 where to buy it?
 go to go.com/ga
 #turnofthejacket

Repeat Our Fall Mantra: #NSO

That stands for "Never squander a style opportunity." Something as small as swapping out your watch strap can get you the compliments you want, or the attention, or even the girl. (Actually, she'd have to be a pretty shallow girl.)

watch strap \$20
at
www.keiko.com

6 Get Your Sweetpants Up Off the Couch

Before you get all seasonally indignant and write a letter of complaint to the Style Guy (by the way, he's at styleguy@keiko.com), answer this question: Does Big Sean look cool here? We know that wearing sweatpants with a blazer is unorthodox. But it works for him. And it can work for you this fall, too (as long as the sweats are tapered with elastic cuffs).

—MAGNETS 808
Saturday NYC

set jacket \$220
set pants \$100
set shoes \$120
set watch \$20
set bag \$15
set shoes \$120

SNAPS 100% COTTON
100% COTTON
100% COTTON

7 Cozify Your Feet

We're not sure who started this, but some designer was probably wearing jockeys with a gray flannel suit. Dotted down and thought, "Hm... Gray flannel sneakers?" We're into it. Sporting fabrics are migrating to low and high, so why not to your shoes?

and released his second album, *Hill of Fame*. It's a funk-influenced sound and a stark voice-over detailing his homestead's problems. "It's feeling crazy that people think I'm just this ass man, talking about ass-queaks and scratches all day." he says. "This time I wanted to get my goods across, instead of just showing how good I can rap."

—LARA CARMICHAEL

shoes \$120
shoes \$120
shoes \$120

9 Give a Flat Outfit a Big Lift

Wearing any sweater over a flat is a cool, but shaggy Sherwood sweaters hit a crucial fall style note: texture. Even a brand-new one looks vintage, with just the right retro appeal.

8 You've Got a Snapback, Now Add This Throwback.

If you follow street style, you know where this came from: Diddy much every detail at the fashion show in Europe was wearing an old-school fedora. We're on board with this trend, and we're abandoning our other cold-weather regimens: fuzzy hats, beanies, and heavy knit caps.

sweater \$85
Paul Stuart
shoes \$120
The Bar
shoes \$120
shoes \$120
where to buy it?
go to go.com/ga
#flatoutfit

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