

Throw off the layers

“Big bags and bigger sunglasses are in this summer”

As the days get brighter and the sun smiles upon us longer, it's time to start daydreaming about summer.

Whether you are on campus, by the pool or relaxing at the beach, here are some tips to sizzle this summer without burning a hole in your wallet.

The great thing about summer fashion is you don't need to spend a lot of money to look great. Student fashionistas go to factory outlets like DFO or second-hand outlets like Savers to find great summer looks for less. Famously cheap retail outlets like Supre or Dotti always have savvy collections for under \$50. Outlets like JeansWest and Cotton On often sell multiples of basic jeans or singlets for a special price, so buy those basics in bulk!

But as Ryan Whelan from Melbourne Central's Fashion Incubator says: "Summer is summer! It's not a matter of layering; it's a matter of getting your clothes off as much as possible."

Beach season is coming up! So get your head out of the Christmas candy and get



ready to bask on the beach.

But if you did over-indulge over Christmas, Whelan suggests wearing more linen shirts.

"Linen shirts do not get enough credit", he says. "They are comfortable, they look good even when they wrinkle and they make a perfect beach cover up."

For beach clothing, Levis' store manager, Elise Mair says, "Summer is all about comfort.

"I recommend more shorts. Don't be afraid to wear them as there is a range of shorts for every body type. If you are still feeling apprehensive about baring lily-white winter thighs, knee length shorts are the best for you."

If you're coming off the beach and heading straight to the pub, combining white with a bright colour is a great way to dress up for summer.

"I choose to wear bright and colourful clothes

with flowery prints", says Swinburne student Natalie Rodriguez.

But a great summer outfit is incomplete without accessories. If you are looking for a great way to update your look for summer, adding a few new accessories is always a fast and easy way to spice up your wardrobe.

And big is in this summer! Rodriguez says she loves big bags and bigger sunglasses.


"I put on fun, exotic and

tribal earrings, necklaces and bracelets too," she said.

So are you ready for fashion fun when summer hits the horizon? Be prepared to hit the heat of the summer without hurting your wallet. It is a great time to blend the old with the new to suit your personality.

So get to your local second hand or cheaper store and find trendy apparel to enjoy the heat.

As Elise Mair says, "The

great thing about summer fashion is you don't need to spend a lot of money to look great. There are so many little tops and cheap dresses that can be inexpensive, the colours are great and if you know what suits your body shape then shopping should be a breeze." 

Karin Smit and Shilpa Bakare



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