

# Buy now before it's too late

## These warm-weather styles are in hot demand



GEORGEA KOVANIS

When a pair of green jeans at Target caught her eye, Lauren Greenfield knew she had to buy them right away or risk losing them to another shopper.

"I get this gut feeling when I'm shopping," says Greenfield, who is 40, lives in Berkley and has worked at high-end department stores. And sure enough, since she bought the green jeans a month or so ago, the selection has pretty much sold out.

"For \$23, I thought that was a pretty good purchase," Greenfield says. "It's a really deep green and you can wear it with black. It even looks good with navy. I want to be trendy, but I don't want to look like I'm 20."

Right now, stores are overflowing with warm-weather clothing and accessories and it can be hard to decide what should top your shopping list. So we asked savvy shoppers, fashion experts and retailers: What are some trends women should invest in now, rather than risk being left behind by fashion?

Here are their top picks:

**WHITE JEANS.** Classic and versatile — wear them with a dressy, flowing top for a night out at a sidewalk café or with one of the season's preppy nautical tops for a casual look — they're a must for warm-weather wardrobes. "We're going to be sold out of white by definitely the end of May," says Lennon Caruso, owner of Caruso Caruso, the Birmingham denim emporium. (Last year, I waited too late in the season and was out of luck in the white jeans department.)

**COLORFUL JEANS.** "You have to get on board with the neon jean trend that we see everywhere ASAP," says Jodi Arnold, who designs The Limited's Eloquii plus size collection as well as its Forenza denim line. "By fall you will be craving the big printed denim trend that's starting to emerge," she says. For those of us who already went through the neon trend in the '80s or think the trend is too youthful, stick with non-neon color jeans like Greenfield did.



JEREMY DEPUTAT

Angela Wisniewski

**WEDGE SANDALS WITH TRIBAL-LOOKING PRINTS OR GRAPHIC DESIGNS.**

"They're going fast," Powell Peabody, owner of Sole Sisters, a shoe, clothing and accessories boutique in Detroit's Midtown neighborhood, says of her store's tribal wedges. Adds Angela Wisniewski, a metro Detroit blogger ([www.heyangela.com](http://www.heyangela.com)), freelance stylist and avid shopper: "The whole Aztec print, I feel like that's really hit its climax right now. If you buy it, this would be the time to do that."

**A CROPPED AND FITTED BLAZER.** You'll maximize your investment if you buy this now because — providing you choose a versatile fabric such as denim — you can wear it straight through the early part of fall. "The tailored fit of this piece (which is shown on the front of this section) provides a modern update on ultra chic, dark denim — it's incredibly flattering," says Simon Kneen, creative director at Banana Republic. Joan Frank, who is 50 and lives in Birmingham, recently chose a turquoise cropped and fitted blazer from H&M and says she agrees that the cut is especially flattering: "It's not square. For me, having very wide shoulders ... can be a challenge. I always feel like I'm a box if I put a blazer on." But the new style, she says, "makes me feel tailored."

**BIG, BOLD BRACELETS, NECKLACES AND SCARVES.** The relatively inexpensive nature of many accessories (especially retro-looking resin bracelets and necklaces) and the ease with which they update a wardrobe means they tend to sell out very quickly. "I just bought a great scarf" for \$9.99 at Marshalls "that's turquoise and lime green striped," says Illysia Neumann-Loreck, a freelance stylist from Plymouth who writes the blog, [www.madlychic.com](http://www.madlychic.com). "I saw it and I loved it. It will be a great accessory for some of my less vibrant clothing. It's a way for me to follow a trend with my current wardrobe. It's a very long scarf. When summer comes and I'm wearing my white jeans, I'm going to tie it around my waist as a belt."



NORDSTROM



NORDSTROM

White jeans such as Lauren by Ralph Lauren's Cuff Crop Jeans, \$95, are going fast.

Run, don't walk, to the dress department. This print jersey dress with a trellis pattern is \$265 and the tulip print cardigan is \$195 at Nordstrom.



FAMILY PHOTO

Illysia Neumann-Loreck, a freelance stylist and blogger from Plymouth, sporting the season's bright colors.



Accessories, such as this quilted orange clutch, are going fast because they tend to be an easy and relatively inexpensive way to update a wardrobe. \$32 at Sole Sisters.



The tribal-inspired Reba wedge sandal