

# Fashion FAQs

Stars and stylistas answer our burning fashion questions. This month some of our fave fashionistas, **Irene O'Brien**, **Darren Kennedy** and **Courtney Smith**, tackle our confusion...



Irene O'Brien



Darren Kennedy



Courtney Smith

**Q Is neon over?** **Irene:** As long as there are festivals, 12-year-olds and Vegas, there will be neon. When considering it for dress, I like to approach it as I would a food....luminous is appealing in a novel sort of way and, whilst fun to have on occasion, it's not something you necessarily want as a staple in your diet. Sometimes it's just best to keep your yellow mellow.

**Q If I don't like pointy flats what is the second most acceptable flat shoe solution?**

**Irene:** 'Fl...', 'fla...', 'flat'? I'm terribly sorry, I don't understand the question.

**Darren:** All the cool kids are wearing retro kicks. Get yourself a pair of re-released New Balance or Nike Air for a look that's hip not hipster.



**Q Are jeans that cost €250 ever really worth it?**

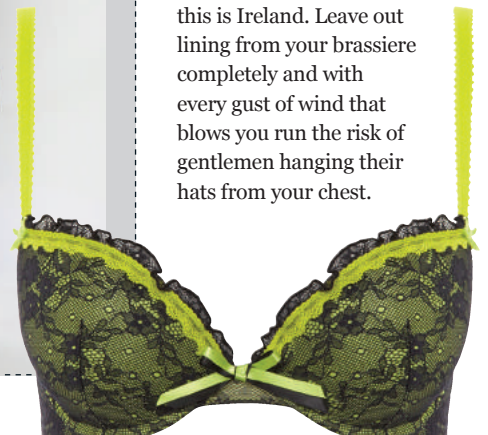
**Irene:** Often with jeans, investment is appropriate but you need to be wise. Channel your inner Parisian and work out price per wear to know their true worth...should you find you're going to wear them too little to justify the purchase, establish some other uses. For example, boyfriend jeans double up marvelously as plastic bag dispensers when hung on the back of your kitchen door.



**Q Why are nearly all bras padded?**

**Courtney:** They were designed by men?!

**Irene:** My dear ladies, this is Ireland. Leave out lining from your brassiere completely and with every gust of wind that blows you run the risk of gentlemen hanging their hats from your chest.



**Q What is the coolest way to tie/drape/style a scarf?**

**Courtney:** Around your head – gypsy chic!







## Q Dungarees.... Ever?

**Courtney:** Yes... when you are five, or if you are doing a Carrie Bradshaw-esque visit to a log cabin in the woods with your hunky boyfriend Aidan.

## Q What is the hot new label I should be namedropping now, before everyone else gets into it?

**Courtney:** Three Floor ([www.threefloorfashion.com](http://www.threefloorfashion.com)). As seen on Amanda Seyfried and a plethora of other celebs and top editors.

**Darren:** East London design duo Agi & Sam are making big waves in menswear at the moment with their deadly digital prints. I reckon it's only a matter of time before the lads work their magic on a women's collaboration.

## Q Why EXACTLY does everyone love and continue to love Isabel Marant so much and will her H&M collaboration be any good?

**Courtney:** I hope so as I already have my tent pitched; she is the original bohemian badass and makes summer SO easy to dress yourself!



ISABEL MARANT

## Q Is a crop top acceptable over the age of 30?

**Irene:** When discussing crop tops let's not fool ourselves into this being an ageist debate. Advice against use over '30' refers not to years but rather waist measurements, I'm afraid.

**Courtney:** Well this is a loaded question; it really depends as a crop top is not necessarily age-dependent but more physique-dependent in my opinion. Diane Kruger has an enviable body and at 36-years-old works a crop top like nobody's business... so if you are body confident and have a svelte frame then absolutely go for it (note: crop tops and muffin tops are NOT hot!).

**Darren:** Unless you've a tummy to rival Gisele Bundchen don't go there. Ever.



From top: Pilot; Missguided; Penneys

## Q Is a bouclé fake Chanel jacket a wardrobe staple or a cliché?

**Courtney:** A fake anything is a cliché – but the high street channeling its own take on the bouclé fabric in chic wearable jackets is not!

**Darren:** I'm so over them right now. If you really love it, store it away in the attic and give it a few years to 'mature'. Next time you wear it'll be practically vintage in its own right.

## Q How about statement necklaces? Or statement anything?

**Irene:** Ever since people have become immune to the shock of bright coral lips, we've all been looking desperately for a satirical distraction from hangover face. All deterrent statements are welcome and, as such, should be encouraged.



Necklace: Penneys. Dress: Crew Clothing

## Q How do you wear white clothes without staining yourself or looking grubby?

**Courtney:** Walk around in a bubble!

**Darren:** Don't be a sloppy eater. I'll be the first to admit it's easier said than done.