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## Spring Outerwear Trends

Written by Shannon McCarthy

Chill winds are making way for balmy breezes and heavy woolen coats are being hung toward the back of the closet to make way for lighter, lovelier layers. Spring is finally here – and so are the newest ways to stylishly wrap yourself for this sunnier season.

### Editor's Picks



Cropped trench coats



Print trench coats



Denim moto jackets



Zip track jackets



Faux leather moto jackets



Swing coats & jackets

### Trenches: Classic Wrap

The most iconic piece of spring outerwear in our roundup, the trench coat somehow manages to be stylishly timeless, charmingly retro and utterly modern at the same time. Keep it season-spanning classic with a knee-length hem; double-breasted tailoring; traditional accents like zippered pockets, multiple snap closures and belted sleeves; and a khaki color scheme. Ladylike vintage variations are right-now fresh: Peter Pan collars, major ruffles up front, animal prints or pretty pastel shades bring a mid-'60s kick to even basic jeans and a tee. Top of the trend heap trenches make a statement with majorly eye-popping colors, so nab a coat in happy red, bright blue or the grassy green you can find and layer it over a pair of skinny jeans in a contrasting bold hue for instant color-block cool.



Trench coats with zippers



Khaki trench coats



Red trench coats



Ruffle trench coats



Leopard prints



More trench coats

### Anoraks: Pretty Practical

Think this style of outerwear is more suited to Arctic research scientists? Guess again, 'cause this particular utilitarian design has been totally transformed: The anorak is back, and remade for the chicest explorers of fashion's frontiers. Forget the heavy layers, these new puppies are made of lightweight nylon, high-performance tech fabrics and even glam satin and metallic fabrics. The expected roomy zippered pockets and drawstring waists show up, beautifully bolstered by decorative straps, snaps and couture-inspired quilted accents. Roll sleeves are offered on many models, easily adjusted with button tabs. Of course, *no* article of this spring's outerwear would be complete unless it was offered in a few of those new blazing hues: Crayon colors make this somewhat masculine shape decidedly girlish. Toss one over a white blouse, floral knee skirt and flats for weekend ease.



Nylon anoraks



Metallic anoraks



Hooded anoraks



Roll sleeve anoraks



Anoraks with ruching



More anoraks

## Track Jackets and Hoodies: Sport Report

Micro-mesh. Super-sleek techno fabrics. Curved seaming streamlining the bod. The sexy-sporty trend is hot this spring, but there's no need to dive into a scary-to-wear scuba dress. Embrace this energetic style the easy way, with a light layer that skims over your figure in some of the most comfortable fabrications you've ever felt. From stretch cotton blends to easy-care poly to velvety velour, track jackets and their more relaxed cousin, the hoodie, are the perfect layer to throw on when a spring day turns chilly. Some of these pieces are seriously flattering too, more carefully tailored (and made of higher-end materials) than the baggy nylon numbers of days past. Choose a front-zip track jacket in yellow or a soft hoodie made fresh with a punchy floral finish, or look for an unusual texture like lace accents or a gorgeous mesh stitch to really cross the fashion finish line.



Track jackets



Jackets with shaping seams



Mesh track jackets



Tricot track jackets



Velour hoodies



Rhinestone hoodies

## Leather: Hide and Sleek

What's better for the weather than leather? Not stifling and heavy like wool, nor as light as cotton, leather both insulates you from spring's notoriously changeable temps and looks amazing besides. We can't think of an outfit that wouldn't be improved with a little of this sleek stuff (and yes, we're talking faux-leathers like pleather and leatherette, too). You'll find this sleek skin shaping all sorts of outerwear, but the trendiest examples include cropped motorcycle jackets shining with rocker hardware, washed and distressed shirt jackets and body-conscious tailoring with asymmetric zip closures. (Leather also shows up on another of-the-moment spring outerwear silhouette, the trench coat, especially mini-trenches ending at the hip.) Classic shades such as black, light tan and cognac abound, but keep an eye out for forest green and even a sweet pastel or two.



Faux leather jackets



Cropped motorcycle jackets



Asymmetric zip jackets



Leather trench coats



Tan leather jackets



Pink leather jackets

## Denim: Tough Love

Happen to have one of your old jean jackets from the '70s or '80s stowed away? You're in luck, as these cowgirl classics are back in solid style. Don't despair if you cleaned out your closet long ago, or just weren't around to sample the trend the first time: The denim renaissance is in full swing and we've got plenty of new jackets to love. The traditional brass-buttoned, cropped, fitted and slightly distressed versions are very popular, and denim finishes on iconic outerwear shapes like the trench, peacoat, anorak and moto jackets are the newest tweak. And if jeans blue ain't your hue, grab one in washed-out pink, deep red or adds-chic-to-anything white. Whatever color or style, that denim jacket will rock over your new maxi dress and espadrille wedge combo.



Cropped denim jackets



Distressed denim jackets



Denim anoraks



White denim jackets



Denim trench coats



More denim jackets

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