

FASHION

THE LACE EPIDEMIC - AND WHY IT'S A LOAD OF RUBBISH

It is considered common knowledge that London is a fashion capital. Home to Vivienne Westwood and the London College of Fashion, I believe that London must truly be, well, fashionable. It is also true that fashion fads have come and gone; in fact today something can even go out of fashion as quickly as the next week. Drainpipe jeans might just about last the year, thanks to supporters such as Mischa Barton and Kate Moss. However, green is already overtaking the February navy and red combo summer.

So, we have established that London is fashionable, and that these fashions don't always last.

There is a fashion for winter, and a fashion for summer. BUT if London is so fashionable, why are designers telling us that LACE is going to be huge this summer?

Lace is impractical. That is why lace is most commonly used on underwear, primary school socks and tablecloths. How can designers (these are supposedly fashionable people) be telling us that lace is going to be 'hot this summer'? Excuse me, but did they not think that due to global warming, it actually gets very hot during the English summer. Did these designers not think of the consequences of lace and sunlight? Think of the stupid tan marks we are going to be coming back to school with in September!

Lace is itchy. The whole reason it was even invented was that it was decorative. These designers don't mean decoration, they mean business. Skirts, shirts, vest tops and shorts, everything is set to be lace. The worst thing is, Dior, Chanel and YSL are all using it, which means that Topshop and H&M will be using it, influencing Primark, New Look and all the supermarkets.

There will be just no escape! So let's hope that by the time it reaches August, sane designers will have dismissed this lacey tragedy and come up with some new, slightly more sensible ideas. If you do accidentally come across a lace item of clothing (maybe as a punishment or part of a revenge scheme), be sure to re-cycle it, and give it to your gran. Maybe as a tablecloth.

BY ABBI WEBB

**IF LONDON IS SO FASHIONABLE,
WHY ARE DESIGNERS TELLING US
THAT LACE IS GOING TO BE HUGE
THIS SUMMER?**

LACIE PANTS!!!



LOOKS FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2006

BY HELEN COULON

When the weather gets hotter, the clothes get lighter and brighter and this summer is no exception. This year, not only are the clothes light and flamboyant, but they've taken a Victorian twist too, sporting ruffles and bows surrounded by neutral colours; we no longer have a summer of pastels and pinks, but a dramatic and wearable selection of black and whites to look out for.

As you've probably already started to see, one of the popular and hottest trends this year is footless tights or leggings. They look awesome under denim skirts or light dresses and can be bought anywhere, and if your budget's tight this season you can always make your own by merely cutting the feet of tights you already have. (Although, leggings and tights are not the most expensive of items)

What about feet though? The clothes have gained an attitude and so have the shoes, no more dainty heels you can't walk across grass (or even just walk) in. Wedges and platforms have returned! Decidedly more comfortable than a pair of strappy stilettos when you're parading around in the warm summer evenings.