

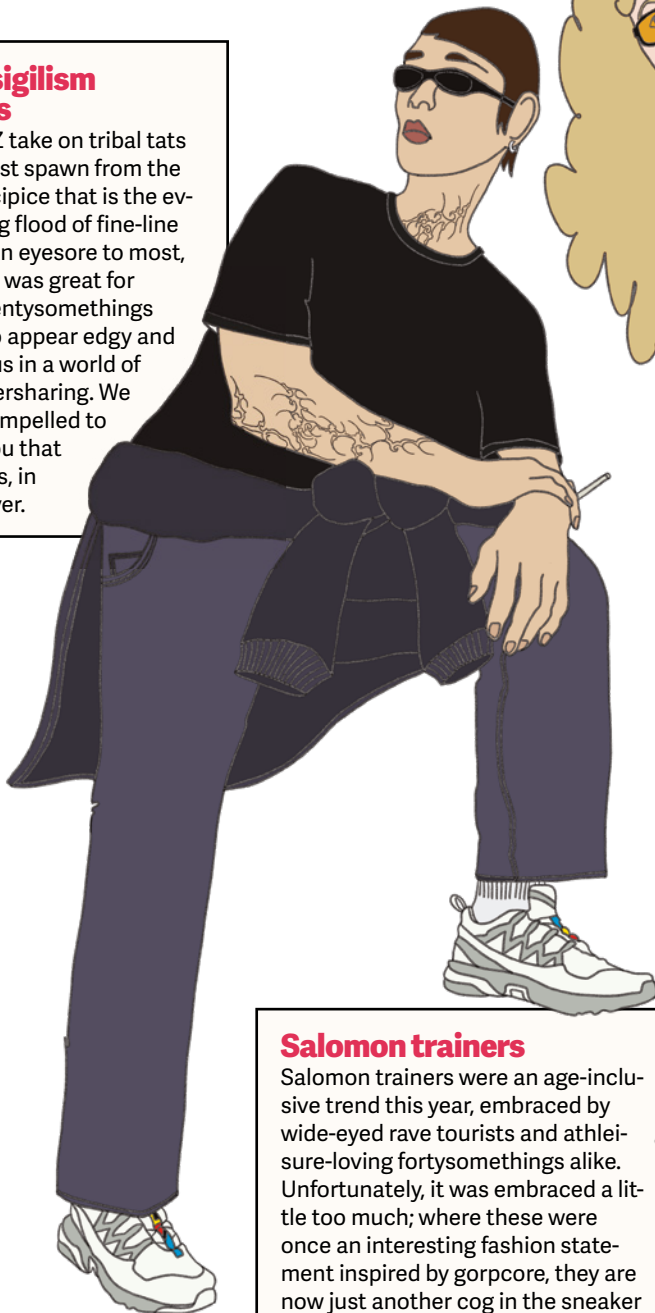
The 10 Worst Fashion Clichés of 2024

How obviously Berlin did *you* dress this year?

By Wanda Sachs / Illustrations by Alma Cheurfa

Cybersigilism Tattoos

The Gen Z take on tribal tats is the latest spawn from the hell's precipice that is the ever-growing flood of fine-line tattoos. An eyesore to most, this trend was great for those twentysomethings looking to appear edgy and mysterious in a world of digital oversharing. We do feel compelled to remind you that body ink is, in fact, forever.



Salomon trainers

Salomon trainers were an age-inclusive trend this year, embraced by wide-eyed rave tourists and athleisure-loving fortysomethings alike. Unfortunately, it was embraced a little too much; where these were once an interesting fashion statement inspired by gorpcore, they are now just another cog in the sneaker machine, shuffling along uninspired.

Orange-tinted sunglasses

Yellow- and orange-tinted sunglasses with thick black frames were all the rage this year, responsible for an epidemic of pumpkin-coloured glare that turned every sunny day into a meet-cute with the seven people in your immediate vicinity wearing the same pair. This fashion editor may or not have been one of them, but we don't need to talk about it.



Bermuda shorts with boots

2024 saw the full resurgence of the Bermuda shorts, and for the unimaginative fashion enthusiast, there was only one way to wear them: paired with a thick boot, preferably of the biker or cowboy variety. The combo came close to defying the point of wearing shorts altogether, especially during those 35-degree summer days. After all, nothing says heatwave chic quite like heavy footwear.

How many fashion crimes have you committed this year?

Count the clichés and receive a verdict from the fashion police.

1-2: First-time offender

You know what you did, but we can see that you're embarrassed and we'll let you off with a warning. For the most part, you don't care for trends, but once in a while you get swept away in the heat of the moment. That's okay, it happens to the best of us.

Kangol flat caps

Unless you're Samuel L. Jackson or a 90s hip hop icon, there's really no reason you should be wearing one of those. Any item of clothing that only has one approved way to wear it – backwards, in this case – has long since crossed over into the realm of tired clichés.



Visible boxer shorts

It wasn't pleasant when just men were doing it, and gender equality certainly hasn't improved the look. It's called *underwear* for a reason. We're all for self-expression, but ballooning gingham-patterned waistbands are not the way.

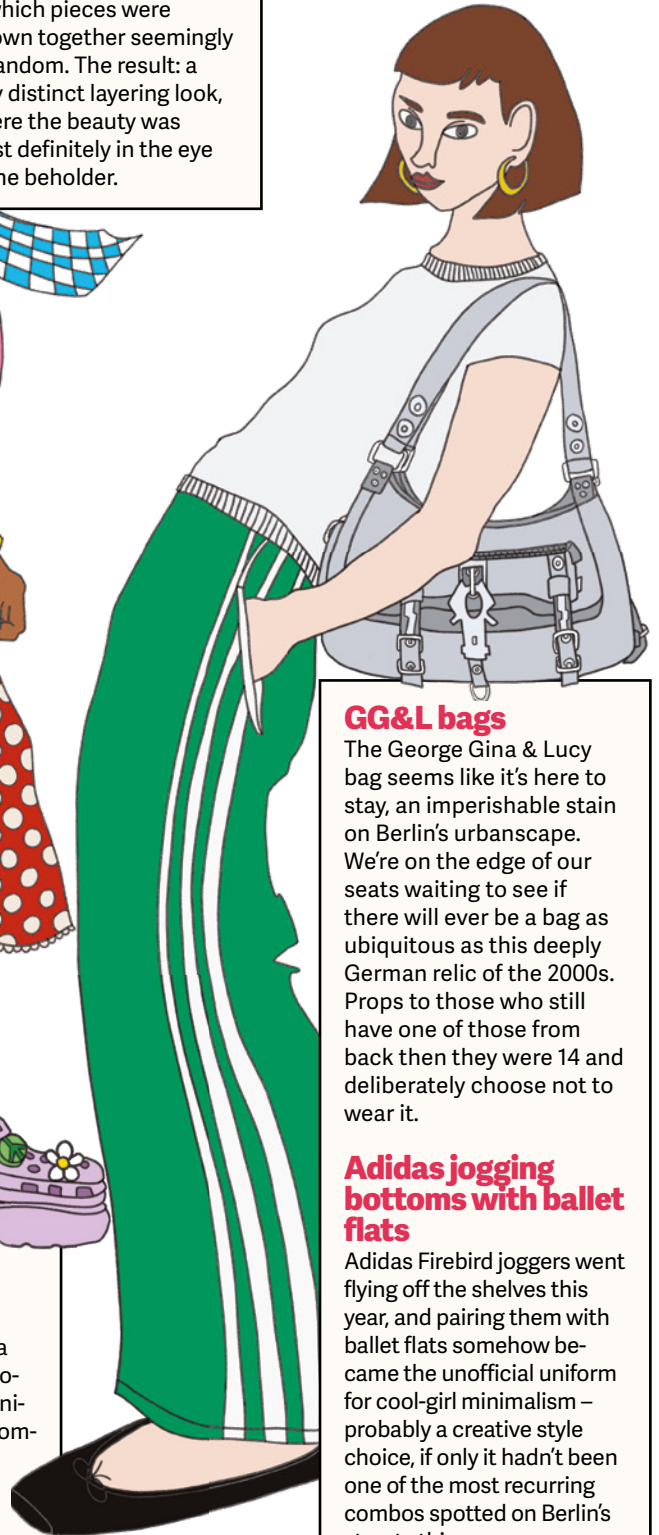


Platform Crocs (and charms)

After the emergence of the Crocs cowboy boots, it took a while for us to realise that people were wearing these unironically. If you garnished this abomination with charms like sugar-coated cherries on a rubber turd, count an extra point towards your result.

Trashy maximalism

Ugly is the new beauty, and as secondhand fashion became increasingly popular so did the pick-n-mix look, for which pieces were thrown together seemingly at random. The result: a very distinct layering look, where the beauty was most definitely in the eye of the beholder.



GG&L bags

The George Gina & Lucy bag seems like it's here to stay, an imperishable stain on Berlin's urbanscape. We're on the edge of our seats waiting to see if there will ever be a bag as ubiquitous as this deeply German relic of the 2000s. Props to those who still have one of those from back then they were 14 and deliberately choose not to wear it.

Adidas jogging bottoms with ballet flats

Adidas Firebird joggers went flying off the shelves this year, and pairing them with ballet flats somehow became the unofficial uniform for cool-girl minimalism – probably a creative style choice, if only it hadn't been one of the most recurring combos spotted on Berlin's streets this year.

3-5: Person of interest

Careful, you're venturing into dangerous territory. The fashion police has recently compiled a file on you in their cabinet, but there's still time to course-correct. A social media sabbatical is definitely recommended.

6 or more: Straight to jail

You're either Gen Z and/or spend way, way too much time online. This is your sign to go touch some grass and find out who you really are as a person.