

Need to Know

Paris Fashion Week: Catwalk Need-to-Know S/S 22

From hedonistic glamour to viral moments, Paris delivered a fitting close to the return of IRL shows

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Lanvin

Overview

The final stop for fashion month proved the most dramatic yet. From Balenciaga's catwalk-meets-red carpet and The Simpsons collab, to supermodels Naomi Campbell and Carla Bruni at Balmain, there were a plethora of Instagramable takeaways.

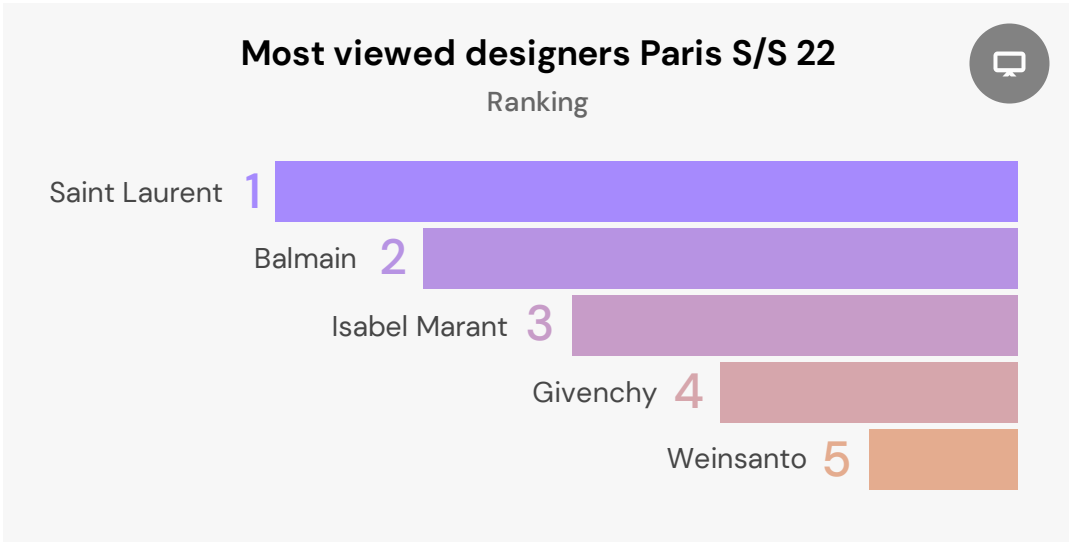
As with the other three cities, party looks were high on the agenda. #Miniskirts and dresses prevail, with rising hemlines meeting the desire to return to the 'new normal'. Dopamine brights and skin-baring #cutouts remain the key details to have on your radar.

Alongside the occasion-focused decadence, active-inspired themes such as our #peakperformance trend developed, honing the fusion of how women want to dress, treading the line between leisurewear and functional performancewear.

Lastly, #sustainability was a prominent concern, with Chloé's Gabriela Hearst and Stella McCartney continuing to lead to the charge towards a more eco-conscious future. Chloé's footwear was made in collaboration with Ocean Sole, a social enterprise that upcycles flip-flops found washed up on beaches and waterways in Kenya, while Stella McCartney made two-thirds of her collection from eco-friendly materials.



WGSN Fashion Feed *Combines tag-related hashtags. Example: #graphiclines, graphicskins, and graphicmonochrome



WGSN catwalk gallery



Trends

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#peakperformance

This standout trend for S/S 22 is characterised by the seamless fusion between active and fashion. The #fashionanorak is key, paired with unexpected hi-lo styling for a design-led update.



#modernoccasion

A low-key direction for occasionwear sees draped and ruched dresses, #longoverlong styling and #matchingsets at the fore. Offer capsule collections for those who prioritise multi-wear and more sustainable techniques over glitz.



#vibrantvacation

With travel back on the agenda, designers serve up hyper-bright colours, high-impact prints and fluid fits. Go bold with print as these styles can go from beach to night club, dressed up or down accordingly.



#poppunk

Key for youth, #poppunk fuses #90sgrunge with punky pop culture references. DIY slogan tees and high-shine leather alternatives for accessories and bottoms tap into this look. Add dimension via #blackwithblack in contrast textures.



#shorething

Nautical themes are reframed for the sophisticated consumer, as contemporary silhouettes are cut in crisp poplin or lofty cottons and #unbleached tones. Keep the silhouette sharp for a sartorial look.

Colour

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#aiaqua

With brights making a big impression for S/S 22, tech-inspired A.I. Aqua lives on. Predominantly styled head-to-toe, use it to enliven tailoring, knitwear and occasion styles.



#offwhite

As brands focus on sustainability, creamy undyed off-white tones come to the fore. The perfect accompaniment to our #shorething trend, work into easy linens and natural cotton qualities.



#hyperbrights

Ultra bright #neons emerge in Paris, tapping into the positive mood across the cities. Made to stand out, invest in #limegreen, #beaconorange and #hyperpink.



#truffle

Despite being more fitting for A/W, rich and authentic shades of brown prove popular. As consumers embrace reassuring colours, use natural tones to anchor directional options.

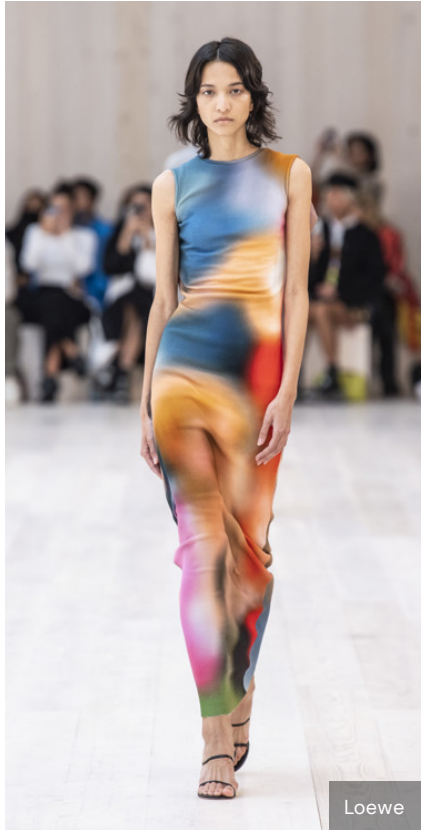


#butter

A key colour across all four fashion cities, Butter is your must-have pastel for S/S 22. Smooth and creamy, pair it with neutrals for a practical and commercial feel.

Prints and graphics

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#softfocus

Evolve soft focus from tie-dye to digital, drawing inspiration from VR and phygital spaces. Use distorted #virtualtexture, #solarisedprints and #digitalfilter effects in hyper-real colours.



#checkerboard

Having gained commercial popularity, #checkerboard gets a pared-down overhaul to broaden its appeal. Add tonal colour combos alongside graphic monochrome for an artisanal, block-printed feel, using #naturaldye.



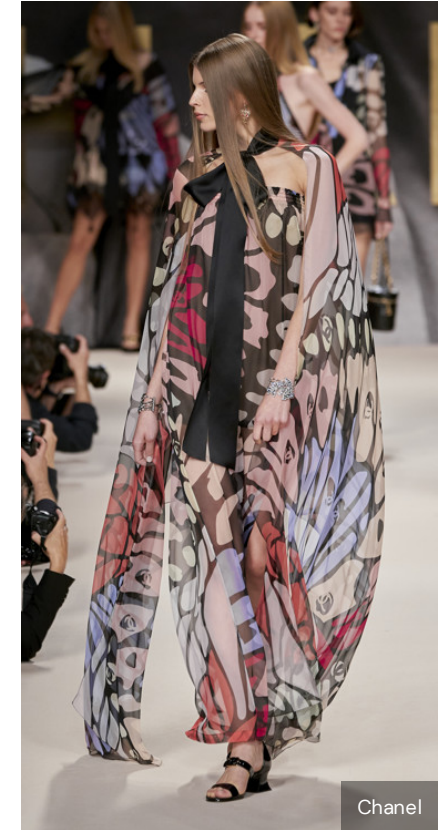
#artificialnature

High-contrast hues and stylised motifs with an artificial quality update florals. Design digital botanical and floral prints in unnatural colour combos and dense large scales for a contemporary, otherworldly feel.



#poppunk

DIY collage graphics and angsty statement slogans reinforce a subversive #poppunk aesthetic. Opt for hand-scrawled fonts and anarchic red and black to enhance the punk sentiment.



#butterflies

Having emerged as the new animal print, butterfly markings feel fresh via exploded, abstract scales. Look to butterfly wings and upscaled proportions as a new direction for #graphicskins.

Materials and details

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#openwork

Paris designers continue to champion textural openwork qualities, adding crafted tactility to looks. Use it to create intricate layering pieces like sweaters or [#craftedcoverups](#).



#halterneck

Key for tops and dresses, this flattering neckline returns to the fore. Ideal for beach-to-bar styling, work it into easy minidresses or sexy cropped wrap tops for the young women's market.



#cutout

S/S 22's most important detail, flesh-flashing cutouts dominated PFW. Ffocus placements on the torso, with the chest, stomach and back key areas.



#hypertexture

Enticing feather finishes continue to drive design detailing within partywear. Sustainability is essential, so create feathered textures using fringed trims, textured yarns and fil coupés



#sheers

Semi-transparent lucid layers proved important across all four cities, adding an ethereal sensibility to looks. Not for the faint hearted, style over statement intimates or use for beach cover-ups.

Apparel key items

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#fashionanorak

One of the standout items of S/S 22, the anorak has transitioned into fashion territory. Use performance fabrications and have fun with styling, pairing it with anything from casual to occasionwear.



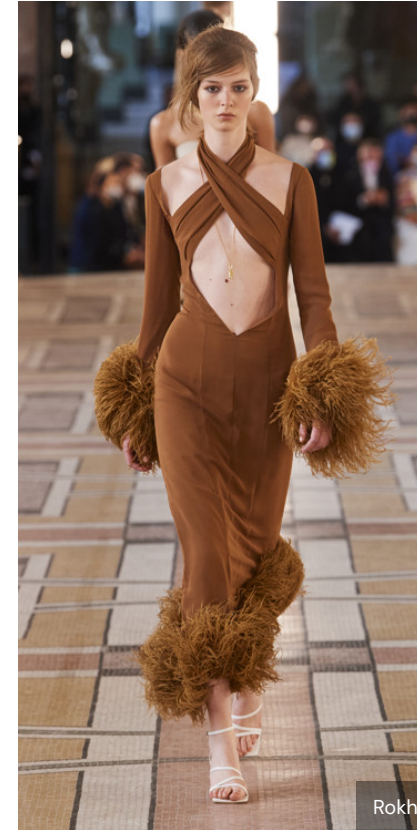
#straightlegtrouser

Speaking to [#y2k](#) and [#90s](#) fashion, this flattering and wearable silhouette appeals to multiple markets. Add trending details such as cargo pockets or low waistlines for youth demographics.



#polopower

The polo shirt is another casual item reframed this season, with [knitted](#) and [boxy](#) renditions popular. Upspec this perennial via trending prints and colours. Merchandise in a [#matchingset](#).



#halterneckdress

Halter necklines return in a range of covetable constructions, including crossover, cutout and wrap detailing. Tick two trends in one and combine with [#hypertexture](#) to tap [#letsparty](#) looks.



#miniskirt

One of the most talked-about moments in Paris, the mini appeared in micro lengths and low-slung waistlines at Miu Miu. Tap into [#noughtiesnostalgia](#) with preppy iterations.

Footwear and accessories key items

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#stackedplatform

Eye-wateringly high [#stackedplatforms](#) reinforce a [#letsparty](#) mood. Contrast material or colour soles and skinny straps work to emphasise large-scale soles.



#craftcore

Handcrafted techniques and joyful colours impact footwear and accessories. Add fringing, crochet and tassel embellishments across categories, using offcuts from apparel to aid sustainability.



#statementearrings

Earrings continued to bolster accessories in Paris, with statement scales driving newness. Use [silver](#) for contemporary chains and metal components. Be bold with lengths for impact.



#flatform

Continuing the quest for footwear that balances comfort and style, the flatform returns to favour. Add curved and [padded](#) details to soles and straps, square-toe profiles and statement hardware to uppers.



#tophandlebag

Speaking to the desire for [#letsparty](#) looks, classic bags come in trend-led colours, rounded forms and lightly padded materials. Pair with matching tonal or printed accessories such as the [#occasionlove](#).

Denim

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#florals

Tapping into our [#joyfulexpression](#) message, bold florals continue to peak within denim. Work into the party mood by crafting floral patterns in intricate all-over embellishments.



#pleateddetails

Adding a sartorial spin to the category, reimagine iconic silhouettes such as kilts and miniskirts in smart raw denim. Contrast pleated sections against clean flat surfaces for detail.



#superwidepant

Roomier cuts continue to offer the main direction for jeans. Comfortable while still feeling elevated, work into elongated lengths and wide cuts that gently pool at the foot in mid-washes.



#engineereddenim

Great for [#sustainable denim](#) ranges, use engineered details such as piece and panelling to upcycle existing styles. Think outside of the box to create directional silhouettes for those seeking investment pieces.



#cutout

Make the design detail of the season work for denim via clean cutouts at the waistband for a flash of flesh. Simple but effective, it is important for the young women's market.

Methodology

WGSN Fashion Feed

Updated daily, the Fashion Feed is our first stop for reporting on the global emerging trends, curated by our team of experts.

This report contains data from the Feed collected across S/S 22 catwalk shows from September 27 - October 5 2021, produced by our team of experts.

Combines tag-related hashtags. Example: #graphics include #graphiclines, graphicskins, and graphicmonochrome

WGSN Catwalk Gallery

Most viewed designers are collected from the WGSN Catwalk Gallery based on how many instances clients viewed a designer featured in the S/S 22 women's catwalks.

