

- New England
- > Boston MA
- > Providence RI
- > Provincetown MA



Your life... with an edge.

ADVERTISEMENT

OUTPERSONALS.COM
WORLDWIDE GAY PERSONALS

OVER 1 MILLION
 TOTAL MEMBERS!

JOIN FOR FREE



Channels

- News
- Entertainment
- Biz/Finance
- Style
 - ▶ Fashion
 - ▶ Grooming
 - ▶ Lifestyle
 - ▶ Homestyle
- Health/Fitness
- Sports
- Travel
- Weather

Community

- Nightlife
- EDGEboards
- Calendar
- Resources
- Pride 2005

Directory

- Shopping
- Lodging
- Food/Drink
- Businesses

Other Sites»



[Back to: Fashion » Style » Home](#)

▶▶ **Fashion Features**

Breaking Your Fashion Image

by Michael C. Sherrin
 EDGE Style Contributor
 Saturday Jun 25, 2005



Too much? Not with the right attitude!
 (Source: D & G Dolce and Gabbana)

ways as you can.

Imagine a prepster with chains on his black pants. Picture a Goth guy wearing a pink skirt. Envision the biggest bookworm exposing his chest in a bright, orange henley. After you stop laughing, let's discuss what made these jarring images so traumatic.

We all have our 'Fashion Images,' which go hand-in-hand with those cliques from high school like jocks and Abercrombie and Fitch, Goths and black, skaters and tent-sized pants, and nerds with pocket protectors. We may enter the workplace and accept removing our nose rings and hiding our Godzilla tattoo, but our style does not change. Once the weekend comes, out come the Bart Simpson t-shirt and board shorts. One of the biggest challenges building a fashionista-worthy wardrobe is breaking your 'Fashion Image' and looking fabulous in as many

I'm a huge comic book caliber nerd; so much so that I can tell you the difference between Superman Earth-1 and Superman Earth-2. During high school I wore thick glasses, matted down my oily hair, and lived in dull shirts and bland jeans four sizes too big. Now, I'm a flaming homosexual writing fashion advice who still enjoys Pre-Crisis Green Lantern comics. But this was a slow process. For a while, I felt self-conscious in my sunglasses. I worried that people could see through my coolness and laugh at this nerd's attempt to cross genres. Now I change-up my days between professional preppy with samplings of gay hippie and even gayer cowboy.

The key to breaking your fashion image is to widen your style, making you more unique. This doesn't mean your have to un-dye your hair and get a piercing. Never will I prance in leather pants or sport a do-rag. That's pushing it. I have grown through the awkwardness of seeing myself with a necklace, huge belt buckle, and cowboy boots. That's the difficult part. How many times have you liked something but just thought it looked wrong. You knew it worked, but there was just something... awkward.

Don't let yourself get locked into a limited school of fashion. This is why you should always make major shopping decisions with trusted advisors. Your friends should be able to combat your natural tendency to avoid the different. Conversely, I find a big fear for trying a new piece of fashion is what people will think. Will they see through my image and/or laugh at me? When you think these things, remember; even plaid can be pulled off by the right fashionista (and a very experienced one at that). Almost (almost) everything can be worn if worn correctly. The challenge is the fun



CROWN & ANCHOR PRESENTS
INDEPENDENCE 2006
 P-Town's
July 4th
 Celebration Week

July 1st
 thru
 July 7th

ONLYATTHECROWN.COM

A Prayer for Owen Meany
 by Simon Bent
 based on the book by John Irving

January 12 - 29
 781-279-2200

Buy a Tux for the same cost as 2 rentals...

And never have to rent again!

KEEZER'S
 CLASSIC DRESSING SERVICES

Come see us for the largest on-site selection of new and resale tuxedos in the Boston area!

www.keezers.com

- Circuit Parties
- Gay Comics
- Horoscopes
- Giveaway Ctr
- Wallpaper
- Model Search

Advice

- Ask Angelo
- Ask Ida

Columnists

- Josh Aterovis
- Lady Bunny
- Jeanne Harnois
- Daniel T. Kelly
- Arnie King
- Cam Lindquist
- Jack Mauro
- Kilian Melloy

Search

Enter terms:

Classifieds

- Browse
- Add Yours

About EDGE

- On The Edge
- Advertise
- Press Room
- Careers
- Contact Us
- Feedback
- Terms of Use
- Privacy

part, so experiment!

Finding new, feasible ideas can be a challenge unto itself, which is of course the reason one would read such an article. But because I charge these suckers by the word for my infinite wisdom, this article is focused on combating the limitations to finding new ideas. Since it would take an entire Barnes and Nobles section to address every different style, I'll give you some examples of the stuff I'm working on to show my brilliance in its practice.

Hats My love for Gene Kelly movies has compelled me to make hats work in an age with manga inspired hair gel. When I wear a small rimmed detective cap, I feel like a mix between Sally Bowles and Humphrey Bogart, but when worn on the right occasion, I am noticed for having an intelligent and original fashion accessory.

Thick-Band Watch Me and my nerdiness do not lend well to the spiky accessories in Hot Topic, but my fancy, shiny silver watch is equally uncomfortable with my faded vintage outfits. While I'm still scared of all the spikes, I have been opening up to overly decorated watches with wonderful results, but I now keep my scientific calculator in my back pocket.

Suspenders Okay, before you laugh, realize that this is a perfect example of what I've been talking about. I haven't worked out all the kinks yet, but I tell you, I'll make suspenders work. I just have to end what seems to me my overall attempt to live inside a Bob Fosse musical.

So, let loose! Give in to your desires and break your fashion image- after the first time, it gets easier, and I promise, you'll never look back!

A freelance writer and editor, Michael can be contacted at MikeCS83@yahoo.com or through his website at <http://mikecs.95mb.com/>.

Email to a friend Printer-friendly version

[Back to: Fashion » Style » Home](#)

Deeper Dating

"...the new-craze dating event...a combination personal-growth workshop and singles' mixer"
-TimeOut New York

Reservations Not Required
Includes Refreshments

deeperdating.com

Face it...
When you're looking for a new home (or want to sell your old one), you shouldn't choose a real estate agent based on his picture, right?

Call Michael @ Metro today!
617.899.3162

METRO REALTY CORP

pride MORTGAGE

FINANCE LOOKING WITH FOR CONFIDENCE FLEXIBLE

FINANCE OPTIONS WITH PRIDE MORTGAGE WITH

CALL US: 800.925.6007? EXT: 207



CLASSIFIEDS ARE HERE!

[Click to add yours!](#)

BARBERSHOP

deluxe

617.425.1928

Copyright © 2003-2006
EDGE Publications, Inc.