

Mixing Up Your Wardrobe for moojoo ken by gillian kirkpatrick

Mixing colors and patterns can create some dramatic, stunning outfits, and it is not as hard as you think. All it takes is a little bit of daring, creativity and a few rules.

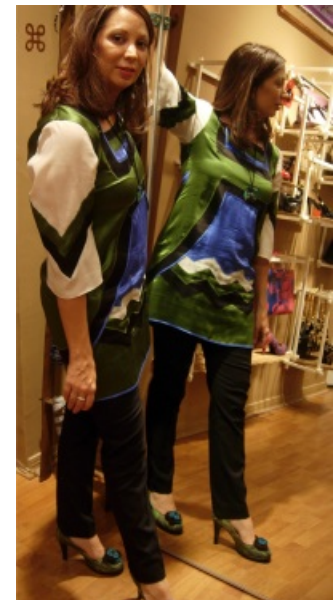
One simple rule that can go a long way in mixing patterns is to have one color that is found in all pieces. That color is the common thread that will connect the diverse patterns. Another rule is to pair one large, dominant pattern with a smaller one. The large pattern is the focal point, and the smaller pattern is the accent. You pick a dominant color and use the others as accents.

In the red outfit, you have two patterns that all have red featured prominently. The linear zig-zag red and grey pattern of the skirt works seamlessly with the organic red and black pattern on the shoe and bag. In this case, the zig-zag is the larger pattern, and the painterly scarf and shoe are the accents.



The simplest way to use patterns is against a black backdrop. In this outfit, you see a black dress that is the canvas, and the gold & black patterns in the bag and shoes are the accents. The gold belt has studs that add another element of texture and break up the solid black of the dress, as well as picking up the gold in the shoe and bag.

Another fine example of mixing large and small patterns is the purple outfit. The dress has the larger, geometric print, and the bag has a smaller, tighter print in the same purple. The smaller print of the handbag does not compete with the print of the dress, but rather speaks to it in the same language. Add a belt with purple trim, and voila!



Expanding upon the rule that you must have one color repeat, you can also have more than one color repeat! This is the best fashion scenario possible. In this outfit, not only does the blue repeat in the tunic, shoe and necklace, but so does the green! Indeed, this is color synchronicity. The tunic is the large pattern in this outfit, and the shoe and necklace are the smaller pattern.



The green paisley wrap dress has green and gold throughout the pattern, and the boots repeat both the green and gold in the dress. The shades of green and gold are not exact matches, but are in the same color family and thus combine nicely. We threw on some blue bracelets just to see what would happen, and it works!



The next outfit repeats the gold in the paisley print of the dress and the background color of the boots. The obi sash is a lighter shade of gold and brings it all together. You can see how the dress is the bolder pattern, and the boots have a smaller print that acts as an accent.



Finally, the boots in the last outfit takes center stage, and we have organized the outfit around them. These great boots have several colors that we chose to repeat in the outfit. The red dress is the backdrop, the blue scarf matches the boots, and the red belt cinches it all together. As you can see, when it comes to color, sometimes "too much" is "just right!"

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If you want to stop by the store, we would be happy to assist with your color selections.

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