

# THE STYLLICIAN

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## SYNTHETICS STYLE EVOLUTION:

**SHINY, SHINIER, SHINIEST**

Originally fabric was sourced to protect us from the elements—a sort of personal armor. It was harvested from natural resources and worn for its durability, practicality, and protection. As technology developed throughout the years, we began to explore a world of synthetics. These new materials sparked the creation of more innovative and idealistic fashion.



From left: Roberto Cavalli SS 18 RTW; Image: vogue.com. J.W. Anderson RTW SS 2018; Image: vogue.com. Calvin Klein SS 2018 RTW; Image: vogue.com

In some aspects, the necessity for clothing to be durable, practical and protective still remains. However, synthetics offer the wearer a new purpose—pure optical pleasure. Synthetic fabrics can be textured to have a natural finish, like a “leather-look” or take on new characteristics such as the “patent” or “wet-look”. These new physical attributes carry through from the fabric into the garment, taking style into a new unexplored territory. Synthetics continue to evolve, generating new ideas, inspirations, and trends.

We’ve gone from pleather to patent pleather, to plastic. Each one a bit more polished than its predecessor. As new alternative textiles are created they become liberated from conventional responsibilities and are given the freedom to really shine.

Here’s a shine breakdown of some of the most brilliant synthetics on the market.

## Shiny

These fabrics have a natural looking luster. Innovative companies like Matt & Nat are committed to creating their bag linings out of 100% recycled

plastic bottles and their bag exteriors from synthetics and recycled materials.



Sheenan Bag by Matt & Nat



Shoes by Sixtyseven

## Shinier

These fabrics have a coated lacquer. They're glossy and always look permanently polished.

## Shiniest

This category maximizes shine and usually looks the

most artificial.

**The advantages:** **1)** You won't have to carry around a compact mirror, you'll see your reflection clearly in these materials. **2)** Don't worry about stains, these fabrics are water repellent and wipeable.



Pants by Topshop

< Newer Older >

