

SPOTLIGHT

Media release

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Stand out with Spotlight

BE THE BRIGHTEST, MOST INDIVIDUAL GAL IN THE BIRDCAGE AT THIS YEAR'S SPRING RACING CARNIVAL

The biggest fashion challenge for racegoers this season will be standing out from the crowds as fashion fillies from around Australia hit the same stores and the same familiar designers to get their trackside outfits. Those who want to stand out and follow the BIGGEST trend globally right now – INDIVIDUALITY – will head to Spotlight for a unique collection of fashion fabrics, embellishments and patterns that allow you to create one-of-a-kind garments from scratch or upstyle existing or thrift store and vintage buys. It's the season of the INDIVIDUAL and we're loving it!

Spotlight's jet setting Senior Buyer in the Sew department Tim Hanrahan says that, in his 15 years of travelling for fashion, he has never seen such a focus on the individual, the handmade and the personalised as does now.

"The pressure on designers to come up with new, genuinely unique stuff is enormous. I think this is why home sewers or 'up-cyclers' are thriving. They're making the garments unique in their own way, at home!" says Tim. "Looking good is more affordable because you're not required to be in head-to-toe designer labels ... it could be a vintage piece that you've altered somehow or a new piece partnered with a more handmade garment or accessory."

You can create great looks with Spotlight this season choosing from brights, florals, navy and reds, monotone patterns and more.

As Tim says, "I saw a lot of florals pushed into the 21st century when I was overseas. These fabrics are perfect for Oaks Day dressing. I can see them looking beautiful when transformed into long and maxi dresses, maybe with a touch of lace."

SPOTLIGHT TRENDS – FIND THE FABRICS IN STORE:

- Monotone patterns worked for Audrey Hepburn in her race scene in My Fair Lady and they'll work for you! This year the accent is on white rather than black, which lightens everything up. Add a classic animal or snake print with this colour palette and it delivers a particular style.
- Tim believes hats work well against this scheme but advises us to consider flattering brim styles instead of the fascinator as it suits all head shapes and "frankly balances out many body shapes giving a much more flattering silhouette".
- Bright, bold oversized patterns and solid block colours are the go, spliced with contrasting bright separates to complete a very confident look. Many of these evoke images of the work of the painter, Mondrian.

- The whole bright look is softer than it sounds with fabrications used for flowing maxi dresses and kaftans which give a sense of luxury and occasion. And as for the Spring Racing Carnival – well the emphasis is on colour which you will see in all its glory.
- The nautical look continues but in a more grown up version with flowing, resort style designs and great prints mixed with stripes and spots to create a Mediterranean feel. Soft linens, unstructured and layered looks can also be found; they're not only flattering but they create style without trying too hard.
- At Spotlight we know Summer in Australia will always have the blues, at least when it comes to fashion but this year there is an evolution in the 'blues' which makes it fresher, newer and more calming. The introduction of greener teals, cleaner indigos and brighter Wedgwood hues all fit into this colour story.

See your Spotlight RACING Cindy doll (attached) dressed in the following three fabric patterns Japanese Lawn, Bonzi Cotton Foil & Tribal Linen Rayon 2 in a fabulous frock taken from Vintage vogue patterns; V2960, V2903 & V1136. Bring these looks to life with Spotlight – turning fabrics into fashion.

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