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Colour blocking is back

Colour blocking, the bold fashion trend that pairs unexpected hues makes a vibrant comeback. Grab your tips to this pop of colour journey.

BY GLORIA HAGUMA

Is it just me, or is the weather in Kampala lately giving gloomy and very unpredictable conditions? One moment it is hot, and you are right under that air conditioning at office and the next moment, you are praying not to be splashed with mud as you manoeuvre the Kampala streets on a boda boda. Because of the ever-changing but mostly cold weather, most of us have resorted to sticking to black, grey and other muted clothing, to stay warm.

That, however, should not be the case. Today's fashion recommendation is a trend that will not only bring so much life to your outfits, but is also making a return, which makes it perfect for you to try it out, if you did not the first time around.

Colour blocking involves pairing hues that traditionally would not be worn together. For instance, pink and red, or lime green and purple.

One thing you can be sure to achieve with this trend is not only an eye-catching look, but also adding some personality to your outfits. You can get creative and expressive with this because the rules literally do not apply, and you are the one in charge of what your final look will be.

In case you are still unsure of how to get into this trend, here are a few tips to kickstart your colour-blocking fashion journey.

Begin with two shades

For beginners, the easiest way to embrace this trend is by starting with two bold colours and keeping the rest of the outfit simple. For example, a bright yellow blouse paired with a purple skirt instantly creates a striking look without requiring too much effort. Accessories can then be kept neutral, such as black, to balance the outfit.

Remember, the biggest accessory with this trend is going to be your confidence. Be sure to pick hues that will not make you feel lost, but rather those that you can wear with confidence.

If you are looking to wear the trend to work, you can still look polished and professional if done thoughtfully. For the ladies, try pairing a tailored green blazer with soft pink blouse and navy trousers.

Quick note

When you open your wardrobe on a gloomy Kampala morning, try reaching for your brighter pieces instead of defaulting to darker shades.

Sometimes, the simplest way to brighten a dull day is by wearing a little colour.

The blazer becomes the statement piece while the other colours support it. Also, a bright blouse under your tailored suit, a bold handbag or pair of shoes can introduce a clash of shades without overwhelming the outfit.

Men, on the other hand, can also explore the colour block trend in subtle yet stylish ways for the workplace.

A burgundy blazer, for instance, paired with a light blue shirt, or mustard trousers with a navy jacket, can create a look that is professional while still standing out. Ties, pocket squares, and socks are also easy ways to experiment with colour if you prefer to keep the main outfit more neutral.

Go all out with your street style.

Street style, however, is where colour blocking truly shines. Here, you can be as expressive and detailed as you would like, without feeling overwhelmed. For the ladies, you can mix bright trousers with graphic tops, colourful sneakers, or statement jackets. To your pair of orange wide-leg trousers, add a blue cropped jacket and white trainers. The outfit instantly becomes bold, fun, and effortlessly stylish. Or, you can have on your matching set, and add a contrasting hue for your layering piece, such as a jacket or kimono.

The beauty of street style is that there are no strict rules. It is the perfect space to experiment, mix patterns, and play with unexpected hue combinations.

Get dressed up with this

When it comes to dressier occasions such as a brunch, night out or even a red-carpet moment, colour blocking can create some stunning looks that will have you dying of compliments all day. For a brunch look, you could pair your purple shorts with a mint green top, and finish this with gold accessories for the perfect finish. You could alternatively have on your gold silky skirt, pair it with a lilac top and add some accessories to complete the look.

If you are dressing for the red carpet, then you can add some character and fun to your red-carpet gown by having it in two contrasting shades like fuchsia and red, or emerald green with hints of gold or turquoise.

So, the next time you open your closet on a gloomy morning, try to stay away from the dark shades and instead reach for the colourful pieces because sometimes the best way to brighten a dull day is simply by wearing some colour.

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