Fashion in Moldova

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Even across the world, fashion is still one of the most popular and diverse aspects of life. It probably doesn't seem weird anymore when you hear that somewhere in Africa or India or even in the smallest and most unknown country, people wear jeans, tennis-shoes and all kinds of stuff that you can see people wearing here in the United States.

Each country keeps it specific traditional style of clothing. Even in the most modern and fashionable pieces of clothing you can still see some specific traits such as ornaments, shapes and colors, that may have significance or a little piece of history about the nation to which they belong.

Other countries that are far away from the United States still get fresh and cool ideas for fashion. Moldova has its unique style, but what is very interesting is that Moldovan designers have found different ways of combining the two countries' fashion and design principles in order to make a unique and interesting type of clothing. However the style, especially among teenagers, is pretty different from what you find in the United States.

Even though jeans are really popular everywhere you go, the teenagers in Moldova always try to express themselves in a more sophisticated way, by wearing elegant and expensive clothes. Everything is transformed into a dressy and fashionable look. The comfortable and practical blue jeans are still popular, but there is a quite a difference between the way they are used.

A certain fact is that Moldovan girls like to wear provocative clothes. As you can see the girls walking down the street, the main Moldovan fashion tips would be "wear it short, wear it tight, wear it low-cut and with as many accessories as you can."

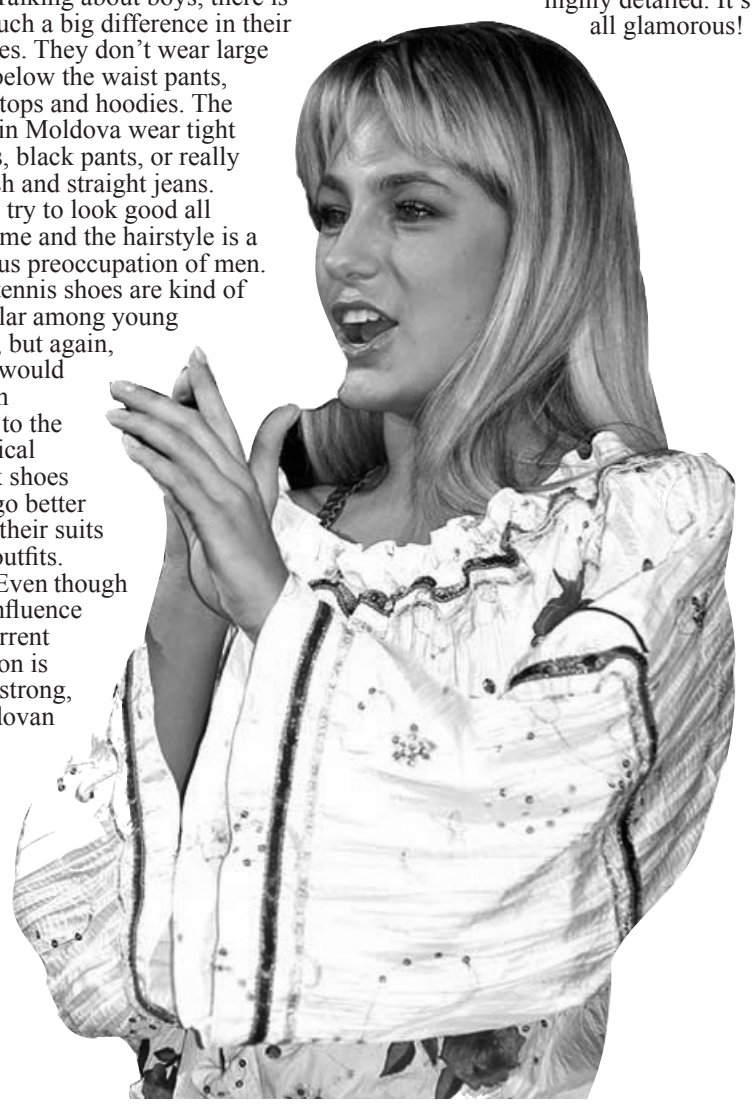
These principles are not so applicable in high-schools, but the rules of dress code are certainly not as strict as in some of the United States' schools. It's much easier for girls to show their femininity and beauty, that's why you do not see them wearing tennis-shoes or tops and jeans in a sports style, as many American girls do. It's common in Moldova to wear skirts and dresses. Moldovan girls also wear tight pants, even though they are jeans. What is the most important and not forgotten are high-heel boots and shoes. The Moldovan boys and men enjoy these things and the more dressy a woman is, the more chance she has to amaze and to gain a man. She is respected and admired.

Talking about boys, there is not such a big difference in their clothes. They don't wear large and below the waist pants, long tops and hoodies. The men in Moldova wear tight shirts, black pants, or really stylish and straight jeans. They try to look good all the time and the hairstyle is a serious preoccupation of men. The tennis shoes are kind of popular among young boys, but again, they would return back to the classical black shoes that go better with their suits and outfits.

Even though the influence of current fashion is very strong, Moldovan designers try to keep the traditional style in their clothes. Many use specific ornaments and patterns from the Moldovan folk.

Colorful and geometric shapes of flowers, fruits, animals, symbols that have specific meaning and small scenes from legends or fairy-tales can be found on the dresses, skirts, and shirts that keep the traditional style of Moldova.

People don't really wear the traditional clothes, but they will remain as a source of inspiration. Moldovan fashion is not much different or unusual, it's just very attractive and amazing. It's elegant and provocative, expensive and highly detailed. It's all glamorous!



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Do It yourself: Reuse Old Denim

Rachel Stuut
Copy Editor

In the closets of many people, there are those bags or piles of old jeans that you don't quite want to get rid of, but can't wear. Now is the time to put those jeans to use. There are many unique ways to use old jeans to make shorts, skirts, purses, magnets, pot holders, etc. All you need is a little know-how first.

Jean Purse

To make a jean purse, use low-rise or small jeans to make a smaller bag. Bigger or high-waist jeans can make for a roomier bag.

1. To begin, lay the jeans flat and cut off the legs. Cut through the crotch, then straight across for an even edge.

2. Turn the jeans inside out and glue the bottom closed leaving about 1/2 inch of fabric (or an even edge). Let the glue dry or alternatively sew this section closed.

3. Flip to exterior and check the bottom for an even edge.

4. Cut the inside seams from both pant legs to make the handles.

5. Glue or sew them onto the pockets. You can also glue or sew in a cheap bandanna as a lining and add embellishments to decorate the outside of the bag.

ANGELO MURRAY / KNIGHT LIFE

Shorts

1. To make shorts, take your jeans and determine what length of short you want.

2. When cutting your pant legs make sure to keep your cut straight.

3. To add some flare add some lace or other thin piece of fabric to the new hem.

When making a skirt, you need to have pants that have a long zipper. A good place to go out and buy jeans would be a Goodwill store. You will need to cut where the legs meet the crotch.

There are plenty of different ways to reuse denim. One thing to remember is to always have fun. For more ideas go to: www.allfreecrafts.com

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Academic Ink

A Permanent Reminder of Who You Are and Where You've Been

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MADISON KAY/ KNIGHT LIFE

Q. Why did you get your tattoos?

A. The Marine core tattoo: "Because I am proud to be a marine." And the other: "is a tribute to my dad who had cancer."

Q. Where did you get them done?

A. "I got one of them done at some guy's house from a guy who used to work for Miami Ink, the other was done in my basement by a guy who met my brother at drug rehab."

Q. Who was the artist?

A. "They called him SICKY"

Q. Are you planning on getting any more? If so what?

A. "Maybe, I don't really know."

Q. Advice to those considering a tattoo?

A. "Make sure you get it done by a professional who uses clean equipment and look at past work that is on a person's skin and not on piece of paper."

Teshia Treuhaft

ALISON ALESSI / KNIGHT LIFE

Q. Why did you get your tattoo?

A. "I just really, really wanted one...I wanted to take a risk after I turned 18... I'm going to art school and I wanted something to remind me not to give up on math."

Q. Where did you get it done?

A. New Addiction

Q. Who was the artist?

A. "D.J., but I'm not sure what his last name is."

Q. Are you planning on getting any more? If so what?

A. "I'd like to get an artist palette or something art related but not for like another year."

Q. Advice to those considering a tattoo?

A. "Get something small for your first time because it's going to hurt...And go with a friend who can hold your hand in case you cry."

Kumar Kothari

MADISON KAY/ KNIGHT LIFE

Q. Why did you get your tattoo?

A. "I got my tattoo because it is a family tradition. My sister was going to get a tattoo of my mom but she died in a car accident, so my whole family over the age of 18 got tattoos in tribute for her. And when my siblings turn 18 they are going to get tattoos, and see when someone in the family gets a tattoo everyone goes back and gets another one."

Q. Were did you get it done?

A. "At some place called Anchor Tattoo Parlor."

Q. Who was the artist?

A. "I don't really remember. I think his name was Steve."

Q. Are you planning on getting any more?

A. "Yes, because it is tradition that when a sibling turns 18 you get another one with them."

Q. Advice to those considering a tattoo?

A. "Get a tattoo that means something to you, don't just get one to get one."

Kailin Kenerly

MADISON KAY/ KNIGHT LIFE

Q. Why did you get your tattoo?

A. "Because my aunt gave me money for it on my 16th birthday, and I was already planning on getting one."

Q. Where did you get it done?

A. "Shy Imaging in Muskegon."

Q. Who was the artist?

A. "His name was Kevin."

Q. Are you planning on getting any more? If so what?

A. "Probably. I'm thinking of getting a sun that represents both dark and light."

Q. Advice to those considering a tattoo?

A. "Make sure you think about what you want to do when you get older because some places unfortunately don't hire people if they have tattoos. And make sure you have seen past work or you're pretty much screwed. Make sure that they use a clean needle because you don't want AIDS or tetanus because those are bad for you."