



THE SUMMER GENT.

The words “Summer Wardrobe, or even “Capsule Collection” to most gents, sounds, somewhat intimidating, almost effeminate and to the most conservative man, downright unnecessary. While many gents have moved forward in the last 10-20 years in terms of fashion and their understanding of it, for many, an education on summer wardrobes, or creating the perfect summer wardrobe is required. Enter the Dubai Summer for a start, then the fact that many of us gents travel, either on vacation, for work, with families back to our home country etc. this can cause problems for gents, who need to be able to throw together their staple summer essentials, without much thought and ensure that they save time, hassle, feel comfortable whatever the climate and ensure that they and their tailored garments look good.

My selection of key summer pieces will ensure the most dapper of gents stays stylish, with a fresher, lighter approach to his tailored look, but still ensuring that he looks sharp, for the board meeting in Dubai, or social outing in Dubrovnik.

The Linen suit.

Linen suits in light, earth/khaki tones are a great idea for summer weddings and other dressed-up, outdoor affairs. They’re cool, comfortable, and still create a dapper elegant look, when crafted correctly. Pair a blue linen suit with a crisp white shirt and a pair of monkstraps or go with a cream version and a round neck tee and trainers for a more casual holiday vibe. The Key here is cut. Avoid a break at the hem, go for a waistband that is snug, without being too tight, and a jacket which is correctly fitting to your body shape. This creates a good silhouette at the shoulders and back. (A boxy linen number is a complete no-go)

Tailored Chino Shorts.

Tailored shorts in a cotton chino fabric are a capsule wardrobe must-own for any man worth his sartorial salt. This is where it can be difficult, with readymade offerings either being too long, wide and generally unflattering, to the more recent (and somewhat questionable) trend of too teeny tiny short. I always advise my clients on three golden rules: they should fit perfectly at the waist,



taper slightly through the thigh, and finish just above the knee. A solid pair in Navy or beige, will be a real wardrobe winner throughout the summer. The great part about creating your own tailored shorts is not only will the fit be ten times better, you have the liberty to create subtle personalization on them, be it monogramming, trim details, pockets, no pockets, side buckles or clasps or go all out Gucci style and create a real statement piece.

A seersucker blazer.

Seersucker. Probably the most unsung hero of them all for the summer months, has had a lot of bad press. When done right, it can be extremely dapper and Sharp. Serving a real Dual purpose due to the material woven in such a way that some threads bunch together, giving the fabric a wrinkled appearance in places. This feature causes the fabric to be mostly held away from the skin when worn, facilitating heat dissipation and air circulation. It also means that pressing is not necessary. Now, I caution all gents here, to ensure you avoid looking like you are wearing a costume, steer clear of the Seersucker suit, and instead opt for the blazer in a thin light blue stripe. Again, Cut and Fit is imperative here. Too baggy and it will look, terrible. Too trim and it will take away from the natural fall of the fabric. This style of jacket can be layered over a fine merino wool sweater and button down oxford shirt to give a fresh, preppy, Ralph Lauren style look. Great for traveling through different climates during the summer months.

The White Shirt

You'll be hard pushed to find a man who doesn't already own a white shirt, but if you're pulling together your first capsule wardrobe, it might be time to invest in something a little more suited to summer.

Prioritize lightweight cotton or cotton-linen blend versions that will help you stay looking sharp and feeling comfortable in the heat. Bamboo Fabric, which we now have available in Ascots and Chapels

for shirting, has been shown through to studies to have so many wonderful advantages as a material, and one of our favorite ones is its comparison next to cotton. When it has been tested in similarity with polyester and cotton, it comes through as stronger (perfect for longevity in your clothing and household linens), and has better moisture wicking and absorption properties (ideal for keeping cool!). Bamboo is also much softer than cotton, as well as being hypoallergenic and great for anyone who suffers from allergies. Wear it under a blazer for a night out and dress-down Friday in the office, or with your tailored shorts on holiday.

The Beige Chino

Durable, versatile and when cut right, super stylish, a neutral pair of chinos make the ideal substitute to the wool trousers you wore through the winter months. The key to finding the right pair that won't go out of style is all in the fit and build quality – they should sit a little lower on the hip than a formal trouser, but maintain the same rise and length in the leg and tapering toward the ankle. Can be easily packed and folded into hand luggage or a suitcase and look good in a social or somewhat more formal setting.

The above list is certainly not exhaustive, and the more adventurous men will obviously want to go a bit wilder with variations, which is also something that should be embraced for summer, but by curating your own, well-tailored base with the options above, you are sure to be set for a very stylish summer.



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