

The Pre-Summer Edit

Spring is in the air, and a sense of airy cheer is all around. This means it's time for a seasonal fashion reset.

Text ✨ **Bindu Gopal Rao**

The onset of summer tends to draw people towards lighter, more skin-friendly jewellery and clothing. Wondering how to do it right? Experts weigh in.

Breathable luxury

Summer 2026 is about breathable structure, handloom cottons, mulmul, linen blends, chanderi, and feather-light silks. Silhouettes are relaxed yet refined: anti-fit kurtas, fluid dresses, modern co-ord sets, and lightweight sarees.

PHOTO: RIVAAJ COUTURE



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PHOTO: ATIRANGI

“At House of Ara, we’re seeing strong demand for easy Bandhej separates that feel festive yet effortless, designed to move with the body rather than restrict it. Luxury is becoming lighter. For intimate weddings, haldi functions, and summer festivities, women are choosing refined craftsmanship in breathable fabrics over heavily embellished pieces. The idea is elegance without excess, pieces that photograph beautifully but remain wearable for hours,” says Avani K Chandan, founder of House of Ara.

Silhouettes are also becoming more fluid and relaxed. “We are seeing easy A-line kurtas, coordinated sets, soft layered dresses, kaftans, and gently flared bottoms. The focus is on garments that skim the body rather than cling to it. Movement, airflow, and versatility are key. At Kaseeda, we



PHOTO: THE HOUSE OF ARA

approach summer design with the belief that fabric should work with the climate, not against it,” says Kirti Seth, founder of Kaseeda.

Light and minimal

Summer naturally encourages lighter, more wearable jewellery. We’re seeing a strong preference for fine chains, delicate bracelets, stackable rings, and versatile earrings that transition effortlessly from morning to evening. Comfort becomes especially important in the warmer months, so pieces that are easy to layer and light on the skin are in high demand.

“That said, bold designs have certainly not disappeared. Statement earrings, sculptural cuffs, and striking cocktail rings continue to be popular for weddings, festive occasions, and evening celebrations. The difference is that even statement pieces are now being designed with better balance and wearability. They make an impact visually without feeling physically heavy,” say Priyanka and Nakul Jain, founders of Mohar Fine Jewellery. The experience becomes lighter while the craftsmanship remains intricate.

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Saloni Shah, founder of Attrangi, adds, “The way traditional gold aesthetics are being reinterpreted for younger women is also showing a significant shift. They want their heritage to fit their lifestyle, but they still place a high value on it. They prefer slimmer bangles, elegant Polki-inspired pieces, exquisite karigari, and modular designs that can transition from festive to formal, instead of bulky silhouettes. The goal is to translate tradition into something wearable, heat-friendly, and adaptable rather than alter it.”

There is a clear move away from weight towards elegance. “For holidays, versatility becomes key. Women are choosing pieces they can style in multiple ways—stackable bracelets, everyday diamond pendants, and statement earrings that elevate resort wear. At Milo Jewels, we design with the understanding that jewellery today is part of a styled lifestyle, not just occasion-based adornment,” says Bhavya Jain, founder of Milo Jewels.



PHOTO: KASEEDA



PHOTO: RIVAAL COUTURE

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Local love

Regional textiles are no longer just heritage markers. They are becoming the foundation of contemporary summer dressing. What’s exciting is the intent behind the reinterpretation. It’s not about making something ‘look modern’ by stripping it of its roots.

“It’s about pairing a Rajasthani Leheriya with a clean, tailored silhouette or using Gharchola weaves in a relaxed kurta set rather than a bridal lehenga. The craft stays intact, but the context shifts. At Pink City, we work very closely with artisans from Jaipur, and what I find is that these textiles,



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PHOTO: MOHAR FINE JEWELLERY



PHOTO: MOHAR FINE JEWELLERY



PHOTO: FINE SILVER JEWELS



PHOTO: RIVAAJ COUTURE

about sourcing. “As jewellers, we’re seeing growing interest in ethically sourced diamonds, responsibly procured gold, certified stones, and heirloom-quality craftsmanship. For us, sustainability is not a trend; it’s a continuation of tradition. Fine jewellery has always been meant to last generations, and that philosophy itself is inherently sustainable,” says Darshit Zinzuwadia, Founder, Radhika Jewellers.

Younger buyers are emotionally connected to tradition but visually drawn to minimalism. “Designers are responding by stripping back ornamentation and focusing on clean lines, versatile forms, and modular design. Instead of elaborate, occasion-only sets, we’re seeing

when given the right silhouette and styling, feel incredibly current and effortlessly summer-ready,” opines Sarika Kakrania, founder of PinkCity by Sarika.

What’s exciting is that regional textiles are no longer being used only in their traditional formats. Handloom cottons are being cut into oversized tunics and structured co-ords. Aayushi Kapoor,

designer at Roza Pret, adds, “Chanderi is being stripped of stiffness and reworked into fluid silhouettes. Lightweight silks are being printed with contemporary florals instead of heavy motifs. The reinterpretation lies in proportion. Cleaner necklines, longer hemlines, and controlled volume. It’s less about nostalgia and more about relevance.”

Sustainability and more

Today’s luxury buyer is far more aware and asks detailed questions



PHOTO: MOHAR FINE JEWELLERY

heirloom-inspired elements translated into everyday formats—think a classic motif reworked into a sleek pendant or lightweight hoops with subtle traditional detailing. The idea is to make precious jewellery feel wearable, not reserved,” says Neha Chelani, founder of Fine Silver Jewels.

“Sustainability today is not just about material sourcing; it’s about designing pieces that endure beyond seasons. If a cuff or



PHOTO: MOHAR FINE JEWELLERY



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“ **Soft neutrals and sun-faded pastels will dominate the base palette, offering calm and sophistication, while selective saturated brights such as deep corals, burnt oranges, and lush greens will be used as accents.**

earring can move from summer 2026 to five years later without feeling dated, that is responsible luxury,” avers Puneet Gupta, founder of Puneet Gupta.

Colour cues

This year, a layered palette of soft neutrals like ivory, buttercream and muted sage that reflect heat and photograph beautifully is trending. Sun-faded pastels, blush, dusty rose, and washed lavender bring softness without looking juvenile.

“Summer 2026 will see a beautiful balance. Soft neutrals and sun-faded pastels will dominate the base palette, offering calm and sophistication, while selective saturated brights such as deep corals, burnt oranges, and lush greens will be used as accents. The overall mood is warm, understated, and



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timeless rather than loud,” says Shivani Parekh, Founder, Rivaaj Couture.

Likewise, with jewellery, colour is coming back, but not the way it used to. After several seasons of all-metal minimalism, there's a renewed pull toward it, though the scale has shifted considerably.

“Heavy gemstone settings have given way to smaller, sharper accents—stones used almost like punctuation rather than centrepieces. Enamel follows a similar logic, applied sparingly, often in softer tones rather than the high-gloss brights of earlier trends.

Nothing feels decorative for its own sake. Summer opens the door to experimentation, but buyers are thinking longer term now. Colour is returning, just in a form that feels considered and easy to live with,” says Disha Shah, founder and designer of DiAi Designs.

While trends still influence purchases, versatility and longevity are now key decision drivers. ✨



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