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# SUITS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Finding the perfect suit can prove to be a struggle these days when there are so many to choose from. Sit back and relax while we take you through our top picks.



A good suit is often described as a man's body armour, so finding a good fitting one is truly important. There are many factors to consider when buying a suit. Is it the right style? And is it the perfect size? A bespoke suit is one solution that takes away the hassle of trying on many before finding the right one.

Henry Herbert Tailors was introduced by Charlie Baker-Collingwood to continue the tradition of fine English tailoring by Henry Herbert, the once master of the royal wardrobe to both King Charles I and King Charles II. Based in Central London, the quintessentially British tailors handcraft the finest bespoke suits and shirts to the highest standards of traditional Savile Row tailoring.

"True to the highest standards of traditional Savile Row tailoring, we use the finest fabrics, the finest tailors and, hopefully, the finest service," Charlie told Elite Living Africa. A very smart and slim fitting three piece suit from Henry Herbert features a slim pair of trousers, a double breasted waistcoat and single breasted two button jacket. Designed in England, most of the suit has been hand tailored and will take 8-9 weeks to make – with a half way baste fitting and then a forward baste fitting before the suit is finished and delivered. The cloth is made by Holland & Sherry using 100 per cent wool and the lining from Dugdales in Huddersfield with working buttons and horn buttons.

A selection of different designs and styles of cufflinks from Henry Herbert compliment the suit perfectly. As Spring approaches, Henry Herbert has consulted its customers on what they are looking for. "So, Spring/Summer 2017, like the years before, I'd say our customers are looking for classic, smart, sharp style. As a small independent tailoring firm, we take our direction from our customers, and we seem to see a traditional rhythm every year."

The tailor offers busy customers a Savile Row by Scooter service, where a Henry Herbert tailor will bring a full range of fabric samples right to their door and all the materials they need for the initial consultation or subsequent fitting. "And so Henry Herbert Tailors and our Savile Row by Scooter service was born - using a custom built fleet of Vespa scooters, using full trained tailors, to meet customers around the clock." ➤



*Faberge sapphire blue enamel cufflinks.*



*Chopard Mille Miglia cufflinks.*



*Faberge pavé diamond cufflinks.*

Charlie rightly notes that the bigger fashion houses have decided on their Spring/Summer collections a year or two in advance. Versace for instance. The fashion house's Spring Summer 2017 collection features a wonderful selection of men suits. 'Lightweight, layered, fluid, functional' - the 2017 collection reflects the way men live their lives today, says Versace. "Tailoring is about functionality" - from the unstructured jersey suit jacket that keeps its shape, to the tailored pants with elasticated waist and cuff. Commenting on the collection, Donatella Versace says "I love change. I want to push Versace forwards, and capture the spirit of individuality and creativity in the men that I love." The Versace suit is refreshed and lightened in the Autumn/Winter 2017 collection. The strong silhouette is now neat to the body, with a soft constructed shoulder for the way men wear tailoring today.

Joseph Abboud recently showcased his Autumn 2017 collection at New York Fashion Week: Men's. "We continue to celebrate the American man, American production, and the masculine individuality that is inherently Joseph Abboud," states the designer. Speaking about what inspired his collection Joseph adds, "I was deeply inspired by the striking architecture of Gothic cathedrals, which is reflected in the construction of the clothing—lapels are exaggerated, coats are sweeping, cape-like, and our signature Traced Fit is slightly relaxed to allow for ease of movement."

Burberry has a range of versatile suits for all tastes. The star-studded Fashion Awards 2016 held at The Royal Albert Hall in London saw a number of guests dressed head-to-toe in Burberry attire. Presenting the awards, British comedian Jack Whitehall welcomed a host of celebrities, opting for a classic Burberry tuxedo for the event. Domhnall Gleeson, actor and star of Burberry's recent Christmas campaign 'The Tale of Thomas Burberry' wore a black silk jacket, tuxedo trousers and silk scarf by Burberry. While Derek Blasberg was daring in pink sporting a rose pink velvet jacket teamed with a pair of black tuxedo trousers by the fashion ➤



ABOVE : Henry Herbert suit and shirt with Union Jack cufflinks.  
ABOVE AND RIGHT: Joseph Abboud Autumn 2017 runway show.





*Visionnaire rose gold and diamond cufflinks.*

house. British actor Douglas Booth and previous Burberry campaign star wore a textured cotton silk tuxedo by Burberry, while Bulgarian tennis player Grigor Dimitrov was also in attendance, wearing Burberry's navy wool notch lapel tuxedo. Christopher Bailey, Burberry chief creative and chief executive officer was behind Burberry's Tudor collection unveiled in September 2016. The pieces featured were inspired by Virginia Woolf's "Orlando," and included a pair of wide leg wool trousers and a ruffled high neck stripe shirt to compliment a bespoke blazer, offering the perfect pieces for a more relaxed look.

For the February collection, Christopher took inspiration from the work and process of British artist Henry Moore. His take on scale, shape and texture is reflected in the form of sculptural silhouettes and asymmetric designs. "Moore's work on display will be a shining example of the creativity and enormous contribution he made to the development of contemporary art in the UK and way beyond, and I'm excited to be showing our February collection alongside the remarkable work of the artist that inspired it," says Christopher. The February 2017 collection will be unveiled as part of the brand's second straight-to-consumer show on 20 February, following which the collection will be available to purchase immediately.

Lagos-based men's clothing line, Caesar Couture, has a variety of men's suits for all occasions that can be tailored to the client's specifications. Founded back in 2000 by Esosa Ogedegb, the fashion label showcased their collection at Africa Fashion Week London in September last year. Commenting on the collection Caesar Couture says, "We were able to stand out because our fabrics have till date, been specially handpicked from the best textile designs worldwide to suit each individual client's needs. For this reason, our clients are assured of that exceptional uniqueness. We are very detailed and because we know that not everyone can wait five weeks for a bespoke suit, we pay attention to timelines and ensure we get it to our clients in just three weeks." ♦



*ABOVE Derek Blasberg wearing Burberry at the Fashion Awards 2016.*