

Marking Moments

Your newsletter from the
M&S Archive

Summer 2023

From power dressing to sportswear,
in this issue we take a look at the 1980s.

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1980s

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for you to try



An M&S Storefront, 1988

Neutral colours in simple architectural styles sum up the look for active and casualwear, there's also a strong sixties feel with polo and turtleneck sweaters.

A spectrum of bright colours give winter wardrobes a lift. These, teamed with black, emphasise this 'fun' look.

Fashion classics such as knitwear and woollen jackets are included.

the LOOK
is...

These are the four main ladieswear looks for this autumn. Each has its own individual style to suit personal taste and our illustrations give an example of each.

This 'rakish' look is based on men's formal wear for both casual and formal attire. Luxurious fabric such as velvets, brocades and satins provide a city slick look for both day and night. Colours are also masculine and rich — mainly black, brown, burgundy and navy.

The English country lady look has been developed from last winter's Woodlands story. Fabrics are wool, shetland and flannels in classic heather tones and pastel shades.

Autumn Style, June 1985

This article shows the styles that would be in store in Autumn 1985. Although the outfits are quite different, they all feature very broad shouldered jackets – a very 1980s look!



Autumn Leaves, 1985

The Autumn Leaves range of crockery and homeware was introduced in the early 1980s. As well as cups, plates and teapots, customers could buy wall clocks, tea towels and even toasters and kettles to match!



Staff Uniforms, c1982

These Sales Assistants are enjoying a meal in the staff canteen. The dresses they wear are printed with 'M&S' in red and blue. Subsidised meals were available in the canteen, to ensure everyone could afford a meal during their shift.



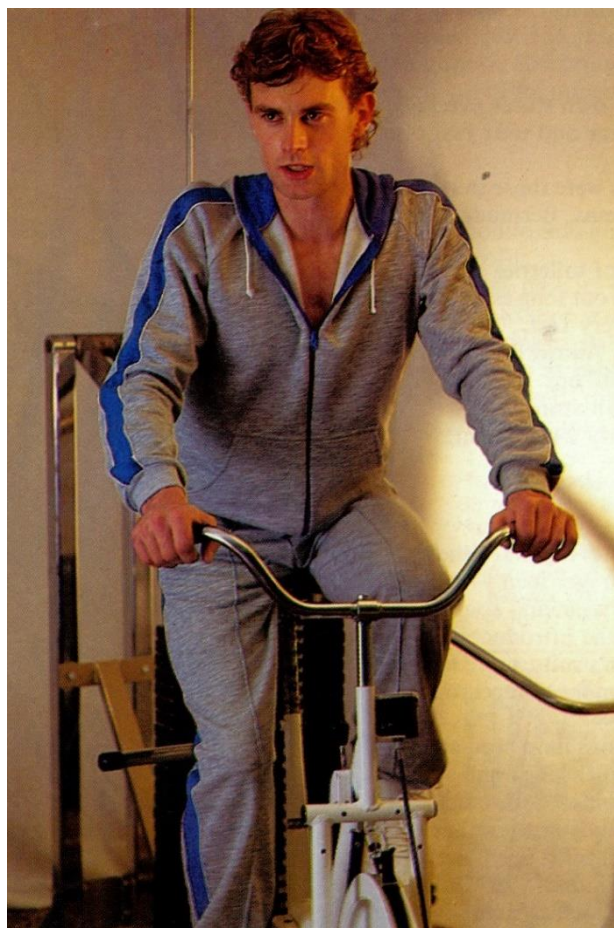
Ready Meals, 1985

Ready Meals or 'Recipe Dishes' were introduced at M&S in the 1970s. These packaging designs are from the 1980s when our ranges of Chinese and Indian food expanded. The Indian recipes were developed in the M&S kitchens with the food author Shehzad Husain.



Sandwiches, 1982

Take-away sandwiches had been sold at M&S in the 1930s, but they were relaunched in 1980. Popular flavours were Prawn & Mayonnaise and Cheese & Celery. Customers could buy a sandwich, drink and snack at a dedicated till near the food department.



Sportswear, 1984

In the 1980s M&S started selling sportswear. Customers could buy clothing for exercise, golf, and skiing. By the late 1980s M&S sold salopettes, ski jackets and even ski boots!



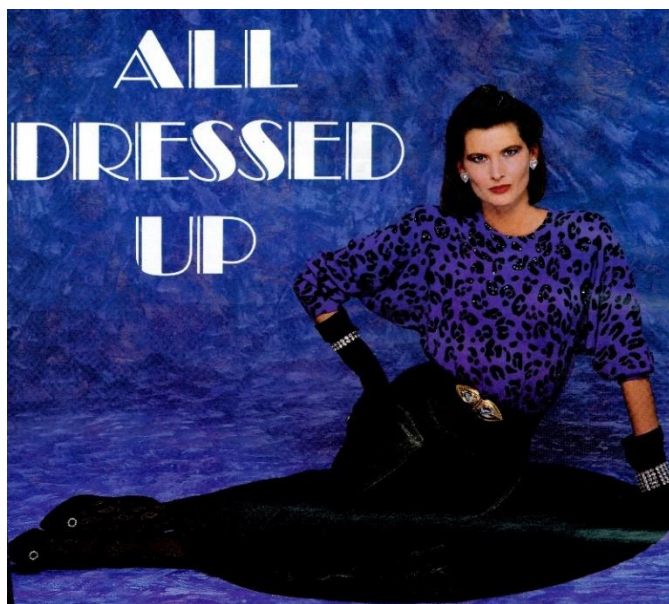
Suits, 1989

Double-breasted suits with broad shoulders were popular in the late 1980s. M&S made shopping for suits much easier in the 1980s – we pioneered colour-match technology, meaning M&S customers could buy their jacket and trousers separately and still be guaranteed a perfect match and fit.



Menswear, 1983

By 1983 M&S in Marble Arch, London was selling an average of 1500 suits a week. The suit department even attracted Hollywood star Dustin Hoffman! Hoffman purchased £2500 worth of suits after visiting the store on the recommendation of Kirk Douglas who also bought his suits at Marble Arch.



Left: SATIN AND LUREX — Luxury men's dinner suit with satin collar, £120, white wing collar shirt £14.99. Lurex stripe dress with lace collar £18.99 and £19.99. Selected stores.

Above SEQUINS — leopard print sequinned jumper £45; gold moire black skirt £49.95. Selected stores.

Below: DIAMANTE — Black velvet coat dress with satin collar and diamante buttons £75. Ladies shoes, £15.99. Both selected stores only.

Left: LUREX — for older girls, sparkly sleeveless top and leggings £7.99 each; ladies' shoes, £15.99. All in selected stores.

Below MOIRE — watermark shiny pink blouse, £35, crinkle velvet jacket and skirt, £65 and £35. Selected stores.



Above: Paisley patterned two-piece skirt set, top (with matching camisole) £29.95, skirt £19.99.

Below: Bright pink blouse with matching camisole £25, Black diamante buckle skirt £29.95.

Womenswear, 1986 and 1983

These photographs show some 1980s partywear. Our ranges included shiny fabrics, wide boxy jackets and padded shoulders, as we started to see the influence of fashions worn in TV programmes like Dallas and Dynasty.



Frilled collars, 1982

Lace and embroidered collars were popular in the early 1980s. The white collar above was sold separately, customers could then wear it with any outfit they wished.



Cosmetics, 1982

These tins from the 1980s include pressed eyeshadow powder, blusher and highlighter powder. The tins made perfect presents, and often included instructions on the back to help customers apply it properly.



Toiletries, 1985

Toiletries have been sold at M&S for many years – customers shopping in our stores in the 1920s could buy soap and talcum powder. In the 1980s we sold hair products including the hairspray above, and ‘Burgundy’ a new range for men which included talc, aftershave and cologne.

Have a Go... Quiz

Find the answers to these 1980s-themed questions on the next page

1. In what year did Jayne Torville and Christopher Dean win Gold at the Sarajevo Winter Olympic Games – 1980, 1984 or 1988?
2. Which American rock band had a huge hit with 'Eye of the Tiger' in 1982?
3. What was the name of the Greenpeace ship which sank on 10th July 1985?
4. Who presented the Radio 1 UK singles chart between 1986 and 1990?
5. Who won the most Wimbledon Singles titles during the 80s?
6. In which year did the Bank of England £1 note stop being legal tender? Was it 1986, 1987 or 1988?
7. Which country won the FIFA World Cup in 1982?
8. Who was the voice of 'Willo The Wisp'?
9. Which horse won his last Derby in 1981 and two years later was stolen from his owner?
10. Which famous Italian tenor performed a Gala Concert at Royal Albert Hall in 1982?
11. Which British movie released in 1981 had the subject of the 1924 Paris Olympics?
12. Which Tudor ship was raised from the waters of the Solent in 1982?

Have a Go... Quiz

Answers

1. 1984
2. Survivor
3. Rainbow Warrior
4. Bruno Brookes
5. Martina Navratilova
6. 1988 (£1 coins were introduced in 1983 and the last £1 note was printed in 1984, but they were legal tender until 1988)
7. Italy
8. Kenneth Williams
9. Shergar
10. Luciano Pavarotti
11. Chariots of Fire
12. Mary Rose

Have a Go... Wordsearch

Find as many of the 1980s words below as you can. Don't forget, the words might go diagonally, or even backwards!

I	S	W	E	A	T	B	A	N	D	M	P	F	Q	S
T	W	T	I	U	S	L	L	E	H	S	O	G	X	F
Y	S	B	R	T	E	M	O	C	J	M	R	R	S	W
G	E	K	H	R	F	S	Y	J	Z	N	H	P	N	T
O	K	S	C	A	S	S	E	T	T	E	R	I	A	Y
L	I	Q	R	Z	X	N	I	T	P	I	X	Y	E	K
O	R	C	G	E	S	J	X	K	N	T	W	H	R	L
N	T	Z	F	C	T	Q	O	G	V	B	N	M	O	D
H	S	D	P	R	A	U	S	W	Y	U	S	A	L	R
C	O	Q	D	M	E	T	P	I	D	U	A	D	E	A
E	G	X	G	G	E	K	W	M	B	Z	L	O	D	T
T	M	G	N	E	Q	I	Y	P	O	W	L	N	Y	O
O	J	O	N	O	O	X	D	W	E	C	A	N	D	E
S	Y	N	T	H	E	S	I	Z	E	R	D	A	T	L
S	B	M	K	D	I	L	N	A	X	O	M	X	W	I

DALLAS
LEOTARD
MADONNA
STRIKES
CASSETTE
COMPUTERS
TECHNOLOGY

COMET
DELOREAN
SPRINGSTEEN
SYNTHESIZER
PERM
SHELLSUIT
SWEATBAND