# Shades of Cool: A Nostalgic Dive into sunglasses in the 70s Fashion

The 1970s marked an era of cultural revolution and self-expression, with various fashion trends defining this iconic decade. Among them, sunglasses appear not only as a practical accessory for shielding eyes from the sun but also as a powerful symbol of style and individuality. In this exploration, we embark on a journey into the captivating world of sunglasses in the 70s, where fashion seamlessly met function in the most fabulous way imaginable.

### The Attention-Grabbing Styles of the 70s

#### Aviator Sunglasses: Taking Flight in Fashion

The 70s witnessed the continued rise of aviator sunglasses, popularized by icons like Robert De Niro and Freddie Mercury. Featuring teardrop-shaped lenses and thin metal frames, aviators became synonymous with a rebellious, laid-back attitude, effortlessly blending with the era's spirit of freedom and self-expression.

#### Round Frames: Embracing Bohemian Vibes

Inspired by counterculture movements, round-framed sunglasses became a staple for those embracing the bohemian lifestyle. John Lennon, with his circular shades, epitomized this trend. More than an\_accessory, these sunglasses were a statement, embracing a laid-back and free-spirited approach to life.

#### **Oversized Frames: Glamour in Excess**

The 70s were an era of excess, and oversized sunglasses epitomized this ethos. From Jackie Onassis to Elton John, these frames exuded glamor and sophistication. The attention-grabbing size not only provided more coverage from the sun but also became a symbol of celebrity status and allure.

# **Desiring the Unconventional: Materials and Colors**

#### Tinted Lenses: Seeing the World in a Different Hue

Tinted lenses became a hallmark of 70s sunglasses, offering wearers a unique perspective on the world. Yellow, rose, and blue tints were particularly popular, providing not only <u>protection</u> from the sun but also infusing the wearer's vision with a touch of psychedelic allure.



#### Wooden Frames: Nature's Embrace

In a nod to the environmental movement of the 70s, sunglasses with wooden frames gained popularity. Crafted from bamboo, rosewood, or teak, these frames embodied a connection with nature and a desire for sustainability, reflecting a cultural shift towards environmental consciousness.

#### Mirrored Lenses: Reflecting Boldness

Mirrored lenses made a splash in the 70s, reflecting not just the sun but also the boldness of those who wore them. This attention-grabbing feature added an element of mystery and charisma, allowing wearers to observe the world around them without revealing their own eyes.

# **Action-Packed Icons: Influencers of 70s Sunglasses Fashion**

#### Elton John: Bedazzled Extravagance

Elton John, a style maverick, adorned oversized and bedazzled sunglasses synonymous with his flamboyant stage presence. These attention-commanding frames reflected not only his musical prowess but also his daring and unapologetic approach to fashion.

#### Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: Timeless Elegance

Jackie O., an eternal style icon, favored oversized sunglasses exuding timeless elegance. Her eyewear choices emphasized sophistication and glamor, setting a standard for the era's fashion-forward women.

#### John Lennon: Peaceful Rebellion

John Lennon's round glasses embodied a peaceful rebellion against societal norms. The Beatle's iconic eyewear symbolized not only his artistic vision but also a call for peace and unity during a tumultuous time.

# Bringing 70s Style into the Modern Day

As we pay homage to the 70s, it's evident that the sunglasses of that era were more than just accessories; they were symbols of a cultural shift towards self-expression, individuality, and social consciousness. To bring a touch of 70s style into your wardrobe today, consider incorporating modern designs inspired by the iconic shapes and materials of that era.



Embrace the spirit of the 70s and let your sunglasses become a canvas for self-expression, just as they did for the trendsetters of that groovy decade. Whether you lean towards aviators, oversized frames, or tinted lenses, remember that your sunglasses are not just a shield for your eyes; they're a statement of your style and a nod to a time when fashion truly knew no bounds.

# **Sunglasses in the 70s: How They Became a Fashion Statement**

Sunglasses, beyond their practical role of protecting our eyes from the sun, have evolved into a fashion statement reflecting our personality and style. They enhance our look, express our mood, and boost our confidence. But how did sunglasses transform into such popular and versatile accessories? In this article, we delve into the history and evolution of sunglasses in the 70s, a decade that marked a turning point in the eyewear industry and culture.

The 70s were a time of social, political, and cultural changes influencing many aspects of life, including fashion. Movements like hippie culture, disco fever, punk rock, feminism, and environmental awareness shaped the 70s. People sought to express their individuality, creativity, and freedom through clothing and accessories, and sunglasses became a vital means to do so.



Sunglasses in the 70s were not just functional; they were fashionable. They came in various shapes, sizes, colors, and materials, offering a wide range of options for different tastes and occasions. Some of the most popular styles and brands of sunglasses in the 70s included:

#### Aviator-style Sunglasses:

Initially designed for pilots in the 1930s, aviator-style sunglasses became a fashion icon in the 70s, endorsed by celebrities like Gloria Steinem, Robert Redford, and Clint Eastwood. With teardrop-shaped lenses and metal frames, they provided a cool and sophisticated look, versatile for both men and women.

#### Colored Lenses Sunglasses:

A hit in the disco era, these sunglasses added a touch of fun and glamor to any outfit. Tinted lenses in various hues, such as blue, green, yellow, pink, or purple, along with gradient or mirrored effects, created a dazzling and eye-catching look, often paired with colorful clothing and accessories.

#### All-Black Sunglasses:

Symbolizing the punk rock movement, these sunglasses represented a rebellious and edgy attitude. With black frames and lenses, they created a contrast with the skin and hair, boasting a minimalist and sleek design, often paired with leather jackets, ripped jeans, and boots.

#### Thick-frame Sunglasses:

A statement of the hippie and environmental movements, these sunglasses showcased a preference for natural and organic materials. Thick frames made of wood, bamboo, or acetate created a warm and cozy look, often paired with floral dresses, denim jackets, and hats.

#### Double-bridge Sunglasses:

A variation of aviator-style sunglasses, these featured a distinctive second bridge above the nose bridge, creating a geometric and futuristic look. With metal frames and lenses in different shapes, they exuded a sporty and adventurous vibe, ideal for outdoor activities and often paired with casual and comfortable clothing.

Sunglasses in the 70s were more than just a way to protect the eyes from the sun. They were a means to express one's personality, style, and mood. They allowed individuals to experiment with different looks and trends, making fashion a fun and creative outlet. In the vibrant tapestry of 70s fashion, where groovy sunglasses adorned faces with flair, <u>wristwatches</u> became the timeless companion, weaving a thread of sophistication into the fabric of that iconic era.

In conclusion, the 1970s sunglasses not only reflected the cultural shift

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