

The change in season dictates a change in fashion trends. The focus for spring/summer is on 'light' - light, pastel colors and lightweight fabrics. Be it parties, weddings or casual wear, light chiffon, organza, muslin, voile, french lace, net, chanderi and cool cottons are in this season.

Here we focus on a few in-season fabrics and possibilities with them.

French lace: A rich, expensive fabric, french lace is usually mixed with other fabrics to stunning effect in saris and lehngas. For instance- 21/2 meters of chiffon or georgette combined with 21/2 meters of French lace makes it more practical to wear (French lace is very transparent). Wear with sleeveless, cut-sleeve blouse or cap sleeve blouse.

Chiffons: Look elegant in a Christian Dior printed chiffon sari with cut sleeve blouse and colored pearls. Chiffons with self-design or embossing, or embellished with matching embroidery, crystals, or piping look great on women over 40. The colors to go for this season: baby pink, off white, sea green, lemon yellow, turquoise blue.

Chanderi: This dotted material from Banaras is light and perfect for the season. A recent trend is to mix chanderi with banarasi border and piping. Wear with plain rubia blouse in keeping with the season, and stay away from silk or crepe blouses.

Gadhwal cottons: These cool cottons from Andhra Pradesh are trendy but traditional and make for great eveningwear, or for pujas and temple visits. Look graceful in a gadhwal cotton this spring/summer.

Super net: This cool cotton fabric from Kolkata is a blend of cotton and silk, and lasts longer than 100% cotton.

Organza: This beautiful material is not very versatile, and does not suit every figure. So organzas are usually mixed and matched with other fabrics to



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create stunning saris.

Suits for the season: Pastel shades in cotton, tussar, jute cotton or chanderi cotton are in. The workmanship is light, with Parsi embroidery or appliqué (patch work) or aari work dominating this season. The fashion dictates for churidars, salwars or capris. Sleeves are in net or chiffon.

Bridal wear: Pastel is the way to go for brides too! Ice blues and peachy ivories are in. Lehngas are embellished with silver work in stones, swarovski crystals, sequins or cut dana. The barbie cut rules the trend, and looks great on slim brides.

Kurtis: Spring/summer is the season for kurtis, be it casual wear or evening wear. Printed kurtis paired

Spring/Summer Trends: Pastels & Light Fabrics



with slacks (tights) look great on everybody.

Jewelry & Accessories: The idea is not to cover the neck during the hot season, so a large pendant set with big stones strung on a thin chain

will look great on any outfit. Pair with white/platinum studs and kada. Clutches encrusted with diamonds or crystals are back in style. Footwear should be in keeping with the rest of the wardrobe. Lightweight sandals with a single strap, in colors that match the outfit or in silver will complete the chic look.

Make-up: Go light on the lipstick, and heavy on the eyes. Let your hair down and don't forget your favorite perfume!

For more information about spring/summer fashions or to see our range, drop by at Raneez in Decatur or call me at 404-633-4966. Visit us on the web at www.raneez.com.

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