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Victoria Beckham
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Altuzarra
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Bottega Veneta
 Resene All Black



Diane von Furstenberg
 Resene Sweet Spot



Michael Kors
 Resene Coffee Break



Oscar de la Renta
 Resene Frozen



Tsumori Chisato
 Resene Havoc



Wes Gordon
 Resene Yarra

Gingham Style

Cast out the image of a horrible itchy picnic blanket; fashion designers have used the classic gingham pattern and transformed it into an energetic design element for a variety of occasions. Executed in multiple fabrics across a range of silhouettes, the pattern has shown its versatility and capacity to be used in different high-end contexts.

This season looked to be more modest for Joseph Altuzarra, with lower hemlines and more coverage overall, but as the show progressed the subtleties began to appear. Dangerously high slits in the skirts were perhaps the most direct inference to sex appeal, aside from using red, the colour of passion, and similar to that of Resene Red Hot in his two-piece gingham jacket and skirt.

While the show, in general, had a heavy active wear focus, the overall collection could be summed up in a single word, effortless. This was most apparent in the long sleeved three-quarter flared dress in a simple black and white gingham with the black being parallel to Resene All Black. The relaxed cut elegantly cinched at the waist with a simple tie belt was enhanced by the use of pattern, albeit a basic one. Bottega Veneta designer, Tomas Maier, said the show was closely inspired by dance and movement, which explains the heavy

use of off the body cuts, which allowed the fabric to dance as the model walked down the runway. "Wouldn't it be better to work on a ballet barre and focus on posture, instead of your six-pack?" said Tomas Maier.

Aided by the stream of natural light that lit up the venue for the runway, Diane von Furstenberg showcased another ultra-feminine collection with a new range of DVF's signature wraps. While the black and white gingham could be considered too basic, a touch of pink like Resene Sweet Spot at the bottom of this skirt helped elevate the outfit.

Gingham did not feature heavily in the range from Michael Kors, although what little he did use helped drive home his tradition of producing classic American sportswear inspired garments for the everyday consumer. Each piece was wearable in its entirety, and the gingham short-sleeved three-quarter dress with wrap belt in a colour akin to Resene Coffee Break is just one example of an outfit that could transition from runway to streetwear without complication or alteration.

Inspiration taken from the outdoors was clear in the range from Oscar de la Renta, with the runway set to a backdrop of fresh flowers. The show was saturated in soft colours including pink and baby blue alongside a series of floral lace

and prints. The gingham used a pastel blue closely linked to Resene Frozen, which was perhaps the most masculine colour in a collection that was heavily feminine focussed. The show captivated the audience to the point where model Karlie Kloss posted on her Instagram, "there is no one on earth who makes a woman feel more beautiful than Oscar de la Renta."

Known for her eccentric interpretation of core inspirations, Tsumori Chisato ignored the outside world for her runway show, opting to seek new ideas from within and eventually landing on the idea of a fantasy garden. While the theme may have been stretched thin, garden motifs are still visible, underneath the creative flexibility that has been applied to each element of every garment. The most direct link to the garden inspiration would be the giant embroidered flower adorned to this short-sleeved red gingham top in a colour similar to Resene Havoc. The look has a multitude of textures and patterns happening, but in a range that is designed to be taken with a grain of salt, the overall effect is more of an aesthetic adventure rather than an overdesigned outfit.

"I'm a sponge. I've lived in L.A.; we have the show in New York, and now obviously we're back in London. I guess I've figured it out from that," said Victoria Beckham.

She said this explains the subliminal elements of the show including the surf prints, but emphasised that the collection is focussed on attitude, making things fresh and carefree. The two-piece sleeveless top and long skirt is the best example of the carefree attitude, using mixed colour gingham with one of the colours being matched to Resene Lexington, used alongside a clean white panel on the skirt to balance the two garments.

Faced with a changing clientele, Wes Gordon has done his best to draw on elements of grunge and reproduce them with a high-end aesthetic in mind to please his customers who are demanding edgy garments with attitude while remaining classic and elegant. The result is a collection that relies heavily on subtle construction details and different silhouettes rather than eye-catching patterns, although he did tie in a blue, black and grey gingham A-line dress constructed in a delicate silk, with the blue being parallel to that of Resene Yarra. The dress is a compromise between attention demanding colour and print, and elegant fabrics and cut, ultimately achieving a symmetry between the two. **WES**