FOR Spring/Summer 2013, the colour spectrum couldn't be at further ends from one another. On one side of the coin there is the in-your-face neon brights and on the other, a colour, much more lightweight, subtle and sweet - pastels.

Ever-present colour blocking trends have taken a sharp turn into the shades of pastel. When it comes to putting together a pastel outfit, hues of mint green, cotton candy pink and daffodil yellows 'spring' to mind, pastel shades reduce the need to sport sunglasses to look in the mirror. However, one must be careful when taking inspiration from the trend not to look similar to an Easter parade. Teaming black with pastels tones down the "I'm off to a garden party" feel.

Powder blue ultra-light wash denim saw Phillip Lim's collection take on a more wearable, sharper silhouette. Ralph Lauren was no "beautiful little fool" with his interpretation of silky pastels that would make even the Great Gatsby's Daisy Buchanan change her mind.

Bold metallic jewellery and accessories were teamed with elegant chiffon gowns and pastel coloured silk shirts. Louis Vuitton dipped pastel point heels in metallic gold, tipping the trend from pale hues to icy blasts. A clever take, incorporating the mandarin and Peter Pan

collars, created a fresh and updated pastel look for Spring.

Dolce and Gabbana were also fans of the Peter Pan collar this season. Lanvin's pastel collection saw the resurgence of Diana's décolleté design in free flowing knee length gowns.

Exquisite sculptured tailoring from Balmain saw an amalgamation of Elsa Schiaparelli's 1993 pagoda shoulder and the peplum jackets from Dior's 1947 collection. Necklines were all over the show, high from Fendi, Prada, Akris and Marc Jacobs.
Plunging from, Etro, Versace, Dior and DVF. Open collared shirts

or blouses in chalky pastel hues, often sheer, were a favourite amongst, Paul Smith and Christopher Kane.





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