

The Rebel Wears Prada

Paul Feig's last movie, the Oscar-nominated *Bridesmaids*, was the funniest of 2011, and his new film, *The Heat*, hits theaters this summer. As a man with a sharp wit, he makes sure he looks sharp too.

I WEAR A SUIT EVERY DAY. I DON'T have to. I work in an industry where the only people who wear suits are "the suits"—studio executives, agents, lawyers. And even *they* dress down half the time. I've met with big shots who looked like they were there to fix the sink.

So why do I wear a suit every day in hot and sunny Los Angeles, the casual center of the universe, when no one asks me to? It's simple: I enjoy it. A suit makes people treat me differently. It bolsters my confidence and makes me feel successful. I wear one to meetings, when I'm directing, and in the editing room. It tells the people who've invested in me that I take my job seriously, even though my job is to make people laugh.

The other reason I wear suits: I look better in them. Suits were invented to show off men's assets and hide our deficiencies. And in today's dressed-down world, they've become an act of rebellion, an unapologetic flip of the bird to the Tyranny of the Casual.

Ready to start looking good? Take notes, fellas. —PAUL FEIG



The No-Sweat Suit

Want to stay cool? Wear breathable material, says Frank Schipani, retail consultant and founder of the Schipani Group. Here's what to look for in a suit.

NO FULL LINING

The satin lining inside most suit jackets acts as insulation. But "an unlined jacket allows body heat to escape through the shell fabric," Schipani says.

WORKING BUTTONS

Most sleeve buttons are decorative. Look for ones that function so you can pop them open and roll your sleeves when the mercury rises. (These are "surgeon's cuffs"—named back when doctors rolled their sleeves for surgery.)

HIGH THREAD COUNT

See the number inside your jacket? Super 120, maybe? The higher that number is, the lighter the fabric. To fight the heat, look for super 130 or higher, Schipani says. —MOIRA LAWLER

1

Stay on Budget

You can't afford to dress well? Bullshit. Inexpensive suits are everywhere—Banana Republic, H&M, and Zara make nice ones. Or go used; it doesn't need to cost more than a sandwich as long as it looks good.

2

Find a Tailor

Nothing beats good fit. You'll usually find tailors in beat-up stores with faded sport jackets in the windows. Or ask a high-end store for a recommendation. The place might even loan you its tailor.

3

Keep Your Cool

Lightweight fabrics cool you down by shielding the sun. I shot *The Heat* last summer; on hot days, I wore a seersucker with a knit tie. If it got too steamy, I'd just loosen the knot and undo my collar.

4

Wear It Proudly

When Hendrix played guitar, he dominated it. When your buddy plays his new guitar, he hunches and labors over every note, the guitar as natural in his hands as a struggling baby calf. Be Hendrix. Stand tall.

5

Persevere

The Suit Guy is the clothing equivalent of the man who always brings his wife flowers and makes his married friends look like shitheads. But don't let them shame you back to your old duds. You look great.

DO I LOOK FUNNY IN THIS SUIT?
Absolutely. And I take that as a compliment.



Dan Turf/Getty Images (Feig); FRANCESCO MUZZI (Illustration)