

# HAT'S ALL, FOLKS!

The wedding season is well under way so make sure you turn heads with an eye-catching style

**A**T THIS time of year, as wedding invites arrive, thoughts turn to that all-important outfit - to be topped off with a stylish hat. Hats may no longer be a part of our everyday wardrobes but they still play a crucial part in our occasion wear and are big business for the fashion industry. "A hat always makes you feel more dressed up, it finishes off an outfit perfectly," says Barbara Suri, hat buyer for the John Lewis store, Peter Jones. "This year drama is important - think big feathers, flowers and brims, as well as lots of black and white."

For the past six years Peter Jones has teamed up with millinery students at Kensington and Chelsea Art College in west London to create a collection of couture hats to sell in-store. The 15 styles that go on sale this week are all hand-crafted one-offs that start from £325 ([peterjones.co.uk](http://peterjones.co.uk)).

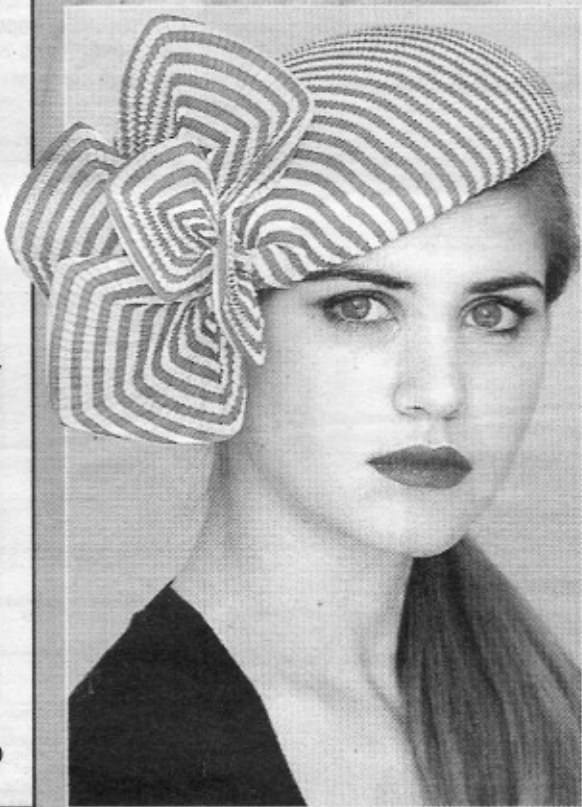
Elsewhere, there are many exciting new hat designers. Top of the list is Gina Foster, who launched her own label a year ago. She creates everything from bespoke headpieces to ready-to-wear pillboxes, priced from £40 ([ginafoster.co.uk](http://ginafoster.co.uk)).

Another label is Bailey Tomlin, designed by Bridget Bailey. The pieces are brimming with personality - her pea-pod tiara recently went on sale at the V&A to coincide with the Surrealist exhibition. Prices from £250 ([baileytomlin.com](http://baileytomlin.com)). For something original, Katharine Goodison specialises in one-off pieces. Prices on request (020 7828 6498).

On the high street, J by Jasper Conran has just launched a new range of classic, very wearable styles for Debenhams, which start from just £50 (08445 616161). And Accessorize is worth a look for feather headpieces, from £18 (0870 412 9000).

Finally, if you can't decide, Selfridges has the most comprehensive range around, from £15 to £1,680 for a hand-finished Philip Treacy design ([selfridges.com](http://selfridges.com)).

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