

Classics revisited The sheepskin coat

How to wear it now by Victoria Bain



BETTY IMAGES

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Our relationship with the cold is a strange one. Despite the fact that we spend at least a third of each year shivering, come mid-October, when the halcyon days of summer seem so far away that we wonder if it was all a dream, the bite of cold air surprises us. Overnight we pack away lighter outerwear in favour of something to stop the chill reaching our bones.

At this point, many of us head to the shops to purchase what will be our winter coat of the year. By the following March we are bored of it as it begins to pill and become tatty at the edges. That is, unless we have a sheepskin coat in our arsenal.

Cosy, comforting and hard-wearing, they tick all the boxes, and the revival of the 1970s trend has seen the style make a confident comeback for autumn/winter 2015. At Chloé they were floor-length and all-enveloping worn over floaty dresses, or thigh-length and cinched at the waist with a thin leather belt – think a contemporary take on Penny Lane in *Almost Famous* – while at Burberry Prorsum they were dyed navy and grey for a truly luxurious look.

On the high street, Atterley and Comptoir des Cotonniers have classic sheepskin coats that will last a lifetime (without a hint of Del Boy), but if you want to splurge, look to Acne Studios, whose shearling numbers have a place in the ‘forever wardrobes’ of the most stylish. Add a wide-brimmed wool hat like the actress Valeria Ciangottini (pictured) for a wintry bohemian vibe. **Bibby Sowray**



Keep it casual
Jeans and a sheepskin is a classic combination. Keep it modern with a pair of thick-soled boots and flashes of colour.
 Faux-shearling coat, £84, Glamorous, from next.co.uk; wool-mix polo neck, £98, J Crew (jcrew.com); leather boots, £225, Grenson (grenson.co.uk); skinny jeans, £49.95, Gap (gap.co.uk); leather messenger bag with pleats, £79.99, Zara (zara.com)



Dress it up
Belted styles work well dressed up or down. Wear with an ankle-skimming dress for a bohemian nod.
 Shearling coat, £1,545, Joseph, from net-a-porter.com; tailored knit dress, £39.99, Zara (zara.com); brass earrings, £12, & Other Stories (stories.com); medium leather shoulder bag, £1,285, Miu Miu, from net-a-porter.com; leather heeled half-boots, £275, Russell & Bromley (russellandbromley.co.uk)



Rocking sheepskin
Opt for longer biker styles as they have a more timeless quality. Team with midi skirts and lace-up boots for now.
 Oversized shearling jacket, £2,000, Acne Studios (acnestudios.com); metal-plate earrings, £17, Cos (cosstores.com); wool-crêpe kilt, £465, Le Kilt (lekilt.com); wool jumper, £245, & Daughter (and-daughter.com); leather ankle boots, £85, Topshop (topshop.com)

