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A TEXTILES SCOTLAND PUBLICATION

FASHION A/W 11/12

KNITWEAR
TO DYE FOR

BRIGHT DAYS AND
NEON NIGHTS

A TWIST ON
TWEED



Jo Storie 'navaho' cardigan available in undyed natural sheep breed colours. Chunky weight knit.

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Scarves by Eribé.



The super chunky knitwear look is one to consider

Pringle has specialised in manufacturing quality, sought-after knitwear for over 195 years, having started off as a hosiery and underwear brand. It has mastered the art of mass appeal, featuring in the diverse and innovative wardrobes of fashion lovers and celebrities including David Beckham and Nicole Kidman; even going as far as making those in warm climates yearn for that chilly day.

Knit couture is in such high demand that fashion forward-thinking Scots including Eribé and Hillary Rohde frequently have to regrettably say no to orders coming in from global designers. Based in Edinburgh, Rosie Eribé counts the likes of Burberry, Prada and Liberty of London as key clients who appreciate her passion to create magic from a knit. All of Pringle's timeless cable knit collection is created by this highly successful hand-made brand.

Autumn/Winter 11/12 is full of continued promise for the knitwear world if the Fashion Weeks are anything to go by - from vibrant, chunky knits to precise detailing requiring years of practice, it is the continued must-have of the season and beyond.

Fair Isle knitwear is a recurring 'in vogue' feature which adorned London's showcase in particular. The fashion conscious among us can appreciate the concept that the recession has resulted in an increased hunger for garments that look lasting, faithful and homemade; like we could continue to select them from our exquisite wardrobes for a couple of years rather than bin bagging after a season.

The Americans have dubbed French designer Sonia Rykiel 'The Queen of Knitwear' since the 1960s and her look can be described simply as stripes and knitwear - a key look as we go into Autumn. Her bold and unforgettable approach attracted much attention at Paris Fashion Week and has earned her ambassadors such as Madonna and Michelle Obama. In 1980 she was voted one of the world's 10 most elegant women and continues to prove, today, that knitwear can fit elegantly within any trend.

Exaggerating her signature clean lines and modern silhouettes, Stella McCartney's Autumn collection, also previewed in Paris, is playful with knits - picture graphic print meets bold patterns as tweeds, layered knitwear and masculine tailoring takes centre stage. Textures are also important with an array of silk, wool, corduroy, grossgrain and lace. John Galiano also saw the ever serious capital of fashion as an opportunity to showcase men's leggings and knitwear as he prepared onlookers for the much anticipated wrap up season.

This year is no exception when it comes to designers arming us with comfortable, warm textures and designs, many of whom hail from Scotland. The super chunky knitwear look is one to consider, offering us the chance to sport the most fabulous of wools as well as fur garments to look pretty but cosy with throughout the whole season. The beauty of it is that most have nostalgic knits lurking in their wardrobes already, so this needn't even be a trend that will cost. And even better, this is not a trend restricted to females as a result of knitwear's true versatility.