

See Ya Layer

NORDSTROM FASHION DIRECTOR GREGG ANDREWS OFFERS STYLING TIPS

BY TINA SAFI

Vegetables may never go out of style, but decades do, so skip the 70s version of layering, which led to bulky outfits of dresses over skirts over pants. Today's minimalist take on layering requires the purchase of only a few staples that can be worn throughout the year. To get the look right, try playing with lengths and proportions to create dimension.

"The great thing about layering is that it allows a woman to take multiple, somewhat basic items in her wardrobe and create different looks based on them," says Gregg Andrews, fashion director for Nordstrom. "She can then fine-tune them based on the weather."

Since winter in Southern California is often warmer than autumn in other parts of the country, San Diegans can afford to choose fashion over function. Our "winter" basics can work all year, so stock up during post-holiday sales and focus on building seasonal looks.

Andrews says these five pieces work perfectly for San Diego weather year-round: A fingertip-length cardigan, a heavy boot, a slimming bottom, a lightweight coat and a loose-fitting tank-top.

Onions got it right—there's one trend that never seems to fade: layering



1
GAP Striped Cardigan, \$54



2
Jimmy Choo Boot, \$965



3
Roberto Cavalli Lightweight Stretch Jeans, \$520



4
Finer Things Jacket, \$78



5
H&M Cream Tank, \$39.90

- 1 **Fingertip-Length Cardigan:** Make sure the cardigan is long enough to cinch at the waist with a skinny belt. Paired with a pencil skirt and a pair of pumps, the look is office-ready. On weekends, wear the cardigan with slouchy jeans, moccasins and a soft t-shirt for an "I'm-wearing-my-boyfriend's-clothes" look. (Pictured: Striped cardigan, \$54, gap.com)
- 2 **Boot:** A knee-high boot with a mid- to high-heel works with almost everything. A soft, unadorned leather will give the shoe more versatility than heavier textures or patterns that won't transition to spring. (Pictured: Jimmy Choo "Peony" leather boot, \$965, Nordstrom Fashion Valley, 619.295.4441)
- 3 **Slimming Bottom:** Stick to a basic, dark, slim-cut pant that serves as a blank canvas. Cigarette-style pants provide the advantages of fitting into boots on colder nights and stretching over heels to give the illusion of longer legs. (Pictured: Roberto Cavalli lightweight stretch jeans, \$520, Nordstrom Fashion Valley, nordstrom.com)
- 4 **Lightweight Coat:** It warms and serves as the top layer to the look. Try a neutral-colored trench, a cropped jacket or a wool pea-coat. (Pictured: Finer Things jacket, \$78, Anthropologie Fashion Valley, anthropologie.com)
- 5 **Tank-Top:** Invest in high-quality, loose-fitting silk or fine cotton. The top should be sturdy and comfortable enough to wear without a cover-up once the weather gets warmer. (Pictured: Cream tank, \$39.90, H&M Fashion Valley, hm.com)

ACCESSORIES

Accessorize to transition outfits from work to play. Belts are skinnier this season but can still be worn high on the waist. A slightly oversized, neutral-colored bag will work all year. Spice it up with "statement jewelry" such as chunky, colored bracelets and rings with big gemstones. "Jewelry is an easy way to add some drama to an outfit," says Andrews. "It adds another dimension to the look." (Pictured: Juicy Couture adjustable cocktail ring, \$88, and Alexis Bittar organic tapered bangle bracelet, \$120 each, Nordstrom Fashion Valley, nordstrom.com; black belt, \$9.90, H&M Fashion Valley, hm.com; onyx geometric ring, \$92, Juicy Couture Fashion Valley, juicycouture.com; Clara Brown Eyelet Bag, \$425, karajamesbags.com)

Juicy Couture Adjustable Cocktail Ring, \$88



Alexis Bittar Organic Tapered Bangle Bracelet, \$120 each

H&M Black Belt, \$9.90



Juicy Couture Onyx Geometric Ring, \$92



Clara Brown Eyelet Bag, \$425

