

30TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

# VERANDA

## All the Best

TIMELESS  
HOUSES  
& OPRAH'S  
SECRET  
GARDEN



ELEMENTS OF

# Style

Maye Musk in  
New York City.

*personalluxuries*

## WHITE HOT

After decades moonlighting as a model, Maye Musk defies conventions to become an icon for the social-media age.

PRODUCED BY CATHERINE LEE DAVIS | WRITTEN BY KAITLIN PETERSEN



MAYE MUSK'S FAVORITE THINGS

1. **IPPOLITA CLASSICO HOOP EARRINGS** "Perfect to wear with jeans for a casual lunch." [ippolita.com](http://ippolita.com).
2. **LA NUIT DE CHANEL NIGHT CREAM** "It feels so good on the skin." [chanel.com](http://chanel.com).
3. **ATELIER SWAROVSKI BY IRIS APPEL JUST IRIS NECKLACE** "On the red carpet, I like the big, chunky stuff with delicate crystals." [atelierswarovski.com](http://atelierswarovski.com).
4. **BY FAR LADA BLACK SUEDE LACE-UP BOOT** "Nights out require glamorous boots." [byfarshoes.com](http://byfarshoes.com).
5. **JUSTIN'S CLASSIC PEANUT BUTTER** "Such an easy snack." [justins.com](http://justins.com).
6. **WHITE ORCHIDS** "In my open-plan apartment, you see flowers instead of the kitchen."
7. **SEYMOUR + SMITH YALETOWN YEW READERS** "I wear them enough that they may as well be a fashion item." [seymourandsmith.com](http://seymourandsmith.com).
8. **TOM FORD SAHARA TOTE** "It has pockets, so I stay organized." [tomford.com](http://tomford.com).
9. **TESLA MODEL S** "It's the only way to get around town!" [tesla.com](http://tesla.com).
10. **CHRISTOFFLE MALMAISON SILVER-PLATED FRAME** "For family photos." [christoffle.com](http://christoffle.com).
11. **RIMOWA SALSA AIR LUGGAGE** "To travel in style." [rimowa.com](http://rimowa.com).

**W**hen she turned 60, model Maye Musk did something radical for someone in her line of work: She let her hair go gray—or, in her case, an elegant, blinding white. Her career skyrocketed, with a parade of ad campaigns, a billboard in New York's Times Square, and a cameo in a Beyoncé music video.

It wasn't the outcome she had expected. Although she started modeling at 15 in

South Africa, Musk never saw it as a career. She moved to Canada, then to New York, always working full-time as a dietitian while modeling on the side. Fashion was a part-time gig to make ends meet as she raised three children on her own. (They're an impressive bunch: Elon, the eldest, cofounded PayPal and is the CEO of Tesla; daughter Tosca is a Hollywood producer; and son Kimbal is a venture capitalist.)

Now 69, Musk is based in Los Angeles

and travels the world on assignment. On Instagram (she's @mayemusk), her followers are spellbound by where she'll turn up and what she'll wear next. While she tends toward classics for day (white shirts, jeans), Musk's red-carpet ensembles—high-high slits and surprising statement jewelry—are glamorous without eschewing comfort. "I love finding pieces and styles that look good and feel good, too," she says. "Dressing well is good for self-esteem." □