

HOOPS

Slender gold hoops both big and small owned the catwalks. Mostly they were suspended from earlobes, but Valentino did show spectacular gold vermeil hooped collars (torques) dangling playful charms like an Alexander Calder mobile. Trinkets were similarly threaded on hoop earrings at Versace and Saint Laurent. Alexander McQueen presented asymmetrically sized hoop earrings of twisted metal, while Oscar de la Renta's hoops were twisted with cloth and threaded with wooden beads, highlighting the versatility of a simple metal circle.

Earrings are sold in pairs, but that doesn't mean they have to be worn that way — especially the jumbo hoops on the runways of Marni, Missoni and Alberta Ferretti in Milan. The oversized triple hoops from Gurung's Atelier range at Tasaki are a foretaste of his next jewelry collection, which the brand is launching in July.

On the back of trends like multiple ear piercings, we're seeing groups of small ear-huggers lined up the side. There are 18-karat gold hoops available in every size, from the smaller-diameter designs in Piaget's Possession line, to the large and slender gold ones at Diane Kordas — the latter bisected by a row of diamonds, which elevate the look for evening wear. Nor do hoops have to be round; Thailandbased brand Patcharavipa's range includes hexagonal designs in black or vellow gold.



GOLD

After years of delicate silver and the subtlest platinum, tastemakers and trendsetters are now banking on bold and gold, especially yellow gold — shiny, bright and far from restrained.

The fashion world hasn't touched it in years. Yellow gold had its heyday in the 1960s and '70s before it was tarnished by the brash gilt costume jewelry of the early 1980s and the sobriety of the ensuing white-metal trend of the '90s and the new millennium. Now we have come full circle, and catwalks are again awash in this warm, optimistic hue as a new generation discovers the joy of wrapping gilded chains around their necks and wrists.

The most notable return to the jewelry boxes of A-listers,

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supermodels and even royals is the gold hoop.
Jennifer Lopez never gave them up, but celebrities like Rihanna are rarely seen in anything else, and the duchesses of Cambridge and Sussex have been known to sport them as well. These, along with industrial-sized chain chokers and the hippie-glam of long gold links, have put the yellow metal firmly back in the spotlight.

Above: Fope Prima necklace in 18-karat gold with diamond-set white gold rondels. fope.com. Left: Bottega Veneta silver and gold choker. bottegaveneta.com



Chunky chain chokers dominated the runways of the A/W19 shows and remain high on must-have lists for summer — as demonstrated by Daniel Lee, the new creative director at Italian brand Bottega Veneta. In his view, the bigger the links, the better. The gilded gourmette chokers in his collection mix 18-karat gold vermeil links with sterling silver or jasper. Solid gold chokers are pricey, of course, even for luxury fashion labels. The vermeil and silver broaden the necklace's appeal at brands like JW Anderson and Alexander McQueen. The same is true for Sacai, where designer Chitose Abe has played with scale by threading fine gold chains through the links of large silver chokers. There were dramatic sterling silver examples in Hermès's collection, too, but the luxury brand's jewelry designer Pierre Hardy has also used its iconic chaine d'ancre (which is based on the look of a ship's anchor) for a smaller link necklace in 18-karat rose gold. The statement choker recalls the Greek-inspired gold curb links of Bulgari's ancient coin necklaces from the 1970s, as well as more recent high-jewelry pieces such as its gold Serpenti necklace with diamonds and emeralds. Chains both large and fine are a specialty of Italian goldsmiths; Fope and Pomellato both feature fine gold-link chokers, including in Pomellato's Iconica, Tango and Brera lines. Among last year's additions to Iconica was the Bavarole necklace, which falls from high on the neck in three different lengths with different-sized links. Tango is the gem-set version of the chain necklace, while the Brera choker can double as a sautoir.