

## Spring/Summer 2018: Put a bow on it

Spring/Summer 2018 runways are calling for you to try the bow. In the dexterous hands of Indian designers, the classic trimming finds new expression



The bows in Buna's Spring/Summer 2018 collection may reveal themselves only on close observation, so minute are the details.

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From clothing to accessories, bows are among Spring/Summer 2018's most noticeable details, but it doesn't take a fashion insider to understand that this isn't a new look. From hair accessories for women to the self-referential men's bow ties, and certainly dresses, bows have enjoyed a long, storied run through centuries of costume transformation, particularly in Europe. Right from the reign of Elizabeth I in the 16th century, when women wore bows in their hair, to 19th century France, when portraits of women show ribbon bows perched firmly on their bodices.

Though, historically, men and boys have worn the bow, it has come to represent unabashed femininity. Blame it on the 19th century gowns as much as Lanvin models and a bevy of Hollywood stars, from Joan Crawford to Marilyn Monroe, but bows are often associated with vintage dresses and larger-than-life gowns. In recent seasons, designers have reinterpreted the detail at its whimsical best, playing with shape and size. For spring this year, Emilia Wickstead juxtaposed candy pink bows on bright red dresses, and Valentino creative director Pierpaolo Piccioli added statement knots in his fashion-forward couture collection. Hair accessories and shoes too had their share of bow adornments, thanks to designers like Ryan Lo, Rodarte, and Giorgio Armani.

But it was perhaps in India that bows emerged real winners as designers recreated the trimmings as part of varied ensembles—including sari blouses—and in a mix of textiles, including local handlooms that gave the familiar prim trimming a droopy effect. Here's a look at the Indian take on bows in fashion, and a hint of jewellery.

Small is beautiful

Buna

The bows in Buna's Spring/Summer 2018 collection may reveal themselves only on close observation, so minute are the details. Titled Threads Of Wind, the collection is an ode to Jamdani weaves with delicate motifs of clouds and birds in flight. The bows add tone-on-tone 3D appeal, positioned on straps, below buttonholes, and on the back.