



**Laia Farran  
Graves**  
Fashion editor

# Mad women

Hourglass Fifties' silhouettes come to the fore

**T**his AW10, a sense of retro nostalgia has hit the catwalk: the glamorous Fifties are back in vogue, in no small part to flame-haired Christina Hendricks of *Mad Men* fame.

Cinched in frocks – using only skinny, chic belts, to reveal tiny waists – with full circle skirts were seen at Bottega Veneta, Prada, Fendi and Loewe: girly, and flirty, and oh so flattering. The less sweet, slightly more vampy alternative is the pencil-skirt option, which oozes femininity and makes grown men go weak at the knees.

Pick a slim-fitting, high-waisted skirt that sits just below the knee and tuck in a fitted

top that buttons up all the way up or has a demure neckline. For a more daring, perhaps evening look, embrace the prom-frock style or wear a corset as a top to emphasise your best assets (Louis Vuitton certainly put the cleavage on show).

Keep your colour palette classic – black, emerald green, gun-metal grey and champagne – and ensure that any outerwear contrasts your silhouette: full skirts with fitted boleros; slinky secretaries with full capes.

When it comes to accessories, keep it simple for maximum effect, and avoid statement make-up and jewellery. All you will need is a pair of long leather gloves and a small structured bag or clutch to carry your rouge, powder compact and dance card – and maybe an iPhone and Oyster card.

**GLOVES**  
M&S, £15  
113 Kensington High  
Street, W8 5SQ  
020 7938 3711  
marksandspencer.com



**BAG**  
Topshop, £45  
Brent Cross  
Hendon Way  
NW4 3FP  
020 8202 2131  
topshop.com

**DRESS**  
Hobbs, £269  
63 Kensington High  
Street, W8 5SE  
020 7937 1026  
hobbs.co.uk



LOUIS VUITTON AW10