

## Men's eyeglasses trends: Hot, popular frame styles

Page published on February 26, 2019



By [Michele Meyer](#)

Stylish glasses for men are the rage – even for those without prescriptions. (Shhh — we won't tell.)

And there's nothing shady about swapping lenses to refresh a pair you already own.

Here's a quick look at what's buzzy and trendy in men's eyeglasses styles:

### **Aviators**

This [classic glasses style](#), launched in 1936 to protect pilots' peepers, took off when Marlon Brando's biker donned them in 1951's "The Wild One," then soared as a perennial via Tom Cruise's flyboy in 1986's "Top Gun."

Have you checked out the trailer for the "[Top Gun: Maverick](#)" sequel due to hit theaters in 2022? You no doubt noticed the aviators are front and center again.

**Update:** Gold metal or skinny navy acetate modernize frames, as do yellow, ombré or reflective lenses.

**See:** J. Lo-era A-Rod, as he tries to hide in plain sight.

**Perfect for:** shredded jeans and scuffed leather moto-jackets.

**Pass on:** Brando's rolled sleeves.

### **Double-bar aviators**

This '70s revival resurfaced on Ryan Gosling IRL (In Real Life) and as a sleazy P.I. in 2016's "The Nice Guys." Design inspiration? Probably über cool actor Steve McQueen.

**Update:** Black acetate rims and pale yellow lenses have proven to be Mission: Possible on Prince William and soccer player Cristiano Ronaldo, who adopted the stylish men's glasses Cruise wore in last year's "M:I Fallout."

**Perfect for:** round faces, like "The Aviator" star and aviator glasses fan Leonardo DiCaprio's.

**Pass on:** Gosling's not-so-nice retro attire of leisure suits, short-sleeve shirts and a porn-stache in his flick.



### **Ray-Ban Wayfarers**

You can't go wrong with this late-'50s to '60s retro classic worn by Cary Grant in scary "North by Northwest."

**Update:** black lenses with black acetate frames on Daniel Craig's Bond in 2015's "Spectre."

**See:** Clark Kent on screen and Ryan Reynolds and Brad Pitt on red carpets.

**Perfect for:** hiding in plain sight.

**Pass on:** naming your kid after a Hitchcock thriller.



### **Ski goggles and chemistry lab shields**

Think space aliens hitting the slopes.

**See:** this '70s rebirth on designer glasses for men's runways of Rick Owens, Prada, Dolce & Gabbana and many more.

**Perfect for:** anywhere other than sports or science labs. (Irony is more hip.)

**Pass on:** accessorizing with a white lab coat.



### **Squares and rectangles**

These flat-top stylish glasses for men prove it's hip to be square.

**Update:** vivid colors.

**See:** Dries van Noten's runways.

**Perfect for:** round or narrow faces.

**Pass on:** basic brown. Booring.



### **Out there**

Once “readers” for mid-life crises, these edgy, elongated and oddly-shaped futuristic frames label you as arty.

**Update:** anything unexpected.

**See:** brazenly bespectacled Jeff Goldblum.

**Perfect for:** nightclubs, poetry readings, Broadway and art galleries.

**Pass on:** hogging these. Expect to fight your significant other for joint custody.



### **Oversized**

These men's eyeglasses styles were popular in the '60s, '80s, oughts - take your pick. But trust us: They're baaack.

**See:** late designer Karl Lagerfeld, whose lenses matched his supersized black frames.

**Perfect for:** padded shoulder blazers (also baaack).

**Pass on:** a ponytail as Lagerfeld's legacy.



## Round

A round we go, with this square-jaw softener, once the geek-chic domain of eggheads, philosophers, artists and architects.

**Update:** Strike gold, the ore of choice for 2019 and beyond, or score with a vivid acetate frame.

**See:** Stanley Tucci and predecessors Beatle [John Lennon](#), architect Philip Johnson and painter David Hockney, all men's round eyeglasses lovers.

**Perfect for:** law offices and artist hangouts.

**Pass on:** so-over silver and stainless-steel rims.



## Horn rims

What make these basics new again are bold hues.

**Update:** blown-up prints and riffs, such as camouflage.

**See:** Brooklyn Beckham at Cannes Film Festival.

**Perfect for:** getting attention.

**Pass on:** classic tortoise shell.



### **Funky chunky**

Thick frames proclaim wearers as mad creatives and add heft to reed-thin bodies.

**See:** '80s grunge guru Kurt Cobain.

**Perfect for:** movie sets, SXSW, Coachella and design studios.

**Pass on:** heavy metal. Been there, done that.



### **Eco-wear**

Gen-Z drives sustainable fashion, including men's frames of biodegradable acetate or recycled and found materials.

**See:** anybody under 35 or who longs to be guilt-free.

**Pass on:** faux wood acetate. (If you do fake it, keep it quiet!)



### **How to pick your glasses: Style and facial fit**

So which men's eyeglasses style will look best on you? The mirror or a virtual try-on tool may hold the answer. Your [face shape](#) may dictate which frames suit you best — but let your intuition guide you as well.

Also keep in mind comfort, fit and [durability](#) of your eyeglasses.

If you're torn between men's eyeglasses styles, even after looking in a mirror, ask your mate or a fashionable friend to weigh in on your choices.

In the end, though, choose the glasses — classy, snazzy, bold or hip — that make you smile.