

ROCKIN' AT THE GROVE | 50s fashion

Rock and Roll Fashion

some styles never die, they just get re-imagined for a new generation

Fad teen fashions of the 1950s are light-hearted reminders of an era many people remember as fun and care-free. Some designs are timeless, like the short pants popular with young women during that era, and evoke a vision of leisure with names like “pedal pushers,” “capris,” and “clam diggers.” Today, this same basic style is popular once again with all ages, featuring cargo pockets, drawstring waists and hems, and chic or utility fabrics. You can be retro and right in



style by pairing today's cropped pants with another classic of the 1950s: Chuck Taylor All Stars! The evocative black and white styling and toecap became popular in the 1950s, and they are still considered cool footwear today.



The ‘coonskin cap was a popular fashion favorite with children and teens during the 1950s as a result of Disney's television program *Davy Crockett*, starring Fess Parker. While the caps of the 1950s often featured rabbit fur with a raccoon tail attached at the back, today, they might see a revival in popularity if they featured faux fur, and a Pleather lining. Pop culture heavily influenced the teen and young adult dress of the 1950s, and that influence is felt today. James Dean and his denim jeans and leather jacket are iconic of the “rebel youth” of the 1950s, and are among the most popular fashions in one form or another all over the world.

But what about that poodle skirt? The full-circle felt skirt featuring loveable telephone-talking, prancing, and posing pooches was a big hit with the younger set in the 1950s. A matching dog collar bracelet (or—if your mother was not looking—a dog collar anklet), neck scarf, and knit twin sweater set or blouse finished off the outfit. Then, crazy kitty kats, records, jukeboxes, and all manner of iconic iron-ons appeared to take doggie's place on the skirts. Just this spring during Milan Fashion Week, a runway was graced by a model wearing a mini poodle skirt coordinated with a blouse featuring the leaning tower of Pisa on the sleeve. It might pay to keep your teen fashion faves: they will eventually come back in style in one form or another!

