

Is there an age limit on sexy?

Younger girls can have cute – you’ve got steamy all wrapped up. Celebrate your extra experience with feminine looks that can only spell one thing: s-e-x-y

By Heather Hudson

Demi Moore. Tina Turner. Sophia Loren. They’re all (well) over 40 and are still smoking hawt, proving there’s no excuse to give up on oozing sex appeal when you’ve reached “a certain age.” In fact, as a woman gets older, she has a better sense of her own personal style and a confidence that can’t be bought, says Laila Kodar, [Little Black Dress](#) style consultant. “When a woman is older, she’s defined her style, knows what her own personal assets are and shouldn’t be afraid to flaunt them.”

Forget plunging necklines and skimpy dresses, sexiness can be found in a well-cut suit, shapely dress or the arc of a high heel. We’ve narrowed down four ways to bring the sexy back into your wardrobe without resorting to twenty-something tricks!

Find pieces that give you shape and enhance your figure

Bringing the feminine silhouette into focus is a guaranteed way to look and feel sexy, says Kodar. “When you think of the female form you think of movement and curves. Sexy means seeing the shape of the woman and you don’t have to show skin to do it. Look for items with cinched waists, closer fitting clothes and tailored pieces to accentuate that hourglass.”

Believe it or not, a great pair of jeans can be the sexiest piece in your wardrobe. “Jeans always remind us of youth and when they fit right, they pull our bodies together. You want to make sure they’re fitted around the butt and thighs. A darker wash in a boot cut is a good choice for most body types.” Pair them with a sexy blouse or white button-down shirt with a pair of heels for an alluring look that’ll turn heads. Or slip on a lacy camisole and a smart blazer for a smoldering look that’s sexy but age appropriate.

Know your assets and show them off

Being aware of what you’re all about is one of the perks of being older. So is being well acquainted with the right shapewear. “[Underwear plays a huge part in helping to flatter your figure](#) and show off your clothing better,” says Kodar. “As you get older you might need more support, whether it’s a bra with underwire or extra padding to give shape or a comfortable pair of control top panties to smooth out your mid-section. You can find shapewear in every conceivable pattern these days.”

Once you’ve refreshed your undergarment supply, don’t be afraid to flaunt your favourite assets. At 71, Tina Turner still rocks mini skirts that show off her famously gorgeous gams and Kodar says there’s no reason you can’t do it too. “Mini skirts are no longer just for 20-year-old girls. A sexy, appropriate way to show off your legs is

to pair a short skirt with opaque nylons with a turtleneck, sweater or blazer and finish it off with a pump.” Older women who still boast a great rack, but don’t want to be overexposed, should own at least one wrap dress. “Especially as you get older, the wrap dress is sexy because it has a nice vee, wraps around the bust area and is usually a flattering knee-length. You can decide how tight you want to tie it and how much cleavage you want to show. Accessorize it with a great pair of heels, a statement necklace or long earrings. Keep it simple and chic.”

Use colour to your advantage

Bold, brash colours are great for making a statement, but Kodar says older women can afford to tone it down a little for a softer look, especially around the face. “Lighter colours in pastels are flattering,” she says. “And don’t forget the power of a white shirt. It lights up the face and there are an infinite number of ways to wear it. Keep it fitted with a suit to show confidence or cinch it with a belt for femininity. For a sexy, relaxed look, pick up an off-the-shoulder white tee and pair it with a cropped pant. It’s a very French look and you can show off the shoulders, which never age.”

Diamonds really are a girl’s best friend, according to Kodar. “Put them in your ears and right away they reflect light and frame your face in a flattering light. Jewels, diamonds, rhinestones and other sparkly things bring focus to your cheekbones and make the whites of your eyes look brighter.” To add colour and interest, tie a colourful print scarf around your neck or buckle up a vibrant belt. Let your personality shine through – you’ve earned it!

Finish a look with sexy shoes

Nothing amps up the sex factor like a spicy pair of heels. “Imagine getting into an elevator with a woman wearing a simple black suit and then you glance down at her feet and see sexy, red hot pumps. This instantly adds interest and she exudes confidence because it’s unexpected,” says Kodar. No matter what your style or body shape, shoes are the ultimate common denominator. Put on a strappy pair of gold shoes and a pair of jeans and – voila! – there’s a touch of glam to your look.

Kodar says heels with straps are always flattering, especially with cropped pants or jeans. And for sex appeal, the higher the better. But if you’re not comfortable in stilettos, check out a kitten heel, which is understated but still chic and sexy. “Women of every age group can wear a pair of heels and look absolutely fantastic. The only limitation is your comfort level.”