

# Top Five Trends in Apparel and Footwear

March 2025

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#### TOP FIVE TRENDS IN APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR

Scope

Our expert's view of apparel and footwear

Key findings

#### INTRODUCTION

Apparel and footwear sales are poised for slow global growth in the face of uncertainty Value-seeking shoppers are more discerning in their fashion spend

Top five trends in apparel and footwear

Top five trends uncovered

#### ECONOMIC HEADWINDS AND STRATEGIC SPENDING

Rising geopolitical risks and economic uncertainty to keep global growth moderate With their purchasing power under pressure, consumers prioritise strategic spending Shein stays competitive by expanding into low-priced categories and balancing SKUs M&S posts record growth thanks to affordable prices and revamped loyalty scheme Fashion companies need to convey clear benefits and tangible, useful incentives

#### VALUE BEYOND PRICE

Consumers do not just chase the best deals but seek all-round value

Consumers continue to show an appetite for wellness and experiences

Birkenstock expands into the beauty and personal care sector with new foot care range

Lululemon continues to show strong growth in China despite economic slowdown

The emphasis on wellness creates opportunities for fashion to widen its ecosystem

## SUSTAINABILITY AT A CROSSROADS

As attention shifts to geopolitical risks, sustainability stands at a crossroads

But regulation and consumers' demands evolve and volume sales are under threat

Dr Martens offers repair services in partnership with The Boot Repair Co

H&M Group takes its second-hand offer offline with new concept store in Stockholm

Fashion players face both challenge and opportunity to amplify their circular solutions

## AI AND DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Fashion players are now at a pivotal time to understand and integrate Gen Al solutions
Companies must explore Al and anticipate changing governance regulations
Adore Me scales up its Al tool, AM By You, to boost emotional durability among customers
Burberry's Al-driven chatbot gives personalised recommendations and styling advice
The fashion industry is shifting from Gen Al pilots to fully deployed projects

#### DEMOGRAPHIC AND INTERGENERATIONAL SHIFTS

Emerging markets will be a key focal point for global apparel and footwear growth
Fashion players need to adapt to intergenerational shifts to unlock growth
Iris Apfel x Dr Scholl's collaboration: Tapping into the baby boomers segment
Spanish retailer Mango launches its first international Teen Store concept in London
Better segmentation can help fashion players to unlock growth and untapped potential

## CONCLUSION

Top five trends in fashion: Future implications

Top five trends in fashion: Action to build resilience and unlock growth

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