

# lookout

weekend 10.05.12

## LEATHER

## REPORT

Get fierce and foxy in dresses, skinny jeans and jackets that mix leather and fabric **22**



## lookout fashion

HIDE  
AND  
GO  
CHIC

**Wearing leather was once an all-or-nothing fashion statement.** (Think biker gangs, 1980s hair bands and loin-cloth-loving cave persons.) But thanks to improved technology, hides can now be shaved into thin, supple-as-velvet material and dyed hues (metallics, gem tones) far more refined than Harley black. Designers also are combining skin and fabric on the same garment — blouses with leather collars, jeans with suede tuxedo stripes — turning the bad-girl staple into a work-to-weekend favorite. “The mix of leather and fabric is softer and more elegant than full-on leather,” says local wardrobe consultant Tara Luizzi of Tara Styles DC ([TaraStylesDC.com](http://TaraStylesDC.com)). “You no longer have to look like a dominatrix.” **TEXT: JENNIFER BARDER**  
**EXPRESS: STYLING: KATHY PHILLIPS**  
**STAINS: PHOTOS: MARGIE ELY (EXPRESS);**  
**MODEL: CHIA. HAIR AND MAKEUP: BRIAN OLIVER, T.H.I.E. ARTIST AGENCY**



**White Striped:** A hide panel toughens up a Milly dress (\$305, Sherman Pickey, 1847 Wisconsin Ave. NW, 202-333-4212). Worn with a David Aubrey necklace and Julie Collection earrings (\$110 and \$85, Bishop Boutique, 815-B King St., Alexandria, 571-312-0042) and Elizabeth & James wedges (\$275, The Shoe Hive, 127 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, 703-548-7105).

**Haute Around the Collar:** Tib's blouse pairs lace with leather (\$425, Piperlime.com). Shown with a Jolie leather skirt (\$458, Piperlime.com) and a chunky necklace, ring and bracelet (\$134, \$42 and \$32, Proper Topper, 1350 Connecticut Ave. NW, 202-842-3055).





**Skinny in Skin:** Rag & Bone faux-leather jeans (\$198, Bloomingdale's, 5300 Western Ave., Chevy Chase, Md.; 240-744-3700) sparkle with an Alice + Olivia blouse (\$254, Bloomingdale's), necklace (\$375, Proper Topper), ring (\$110, Bishop Boutique), Botkier bag (\$395, The Shoe Hive) and Mark + James shoes (\$275, Bishop Boutique).



**Biker Chic:** June's drapery jacket (\$690, Betsy Fisher, 1224 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-785-1975) tops a Rebecca Taylor dress (\$386, Bloomingdale's). Shown with Rebecca Minkoff booties (\$325, The Shoe Hive) and David Aubrey earrings (\$75, Bishop Boutique).



**Leg Upper:** Free People's leather shorts (\$98, Piperlime.com) rock out with an Aquo blouse (\$78, Bloomingdale's), fuzzy vest (\$74, Urban Chic, 1026 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-539-5308), necklace and bracelets (\$85 and \$130 a set, The Shoe Hive) and Ivanka Trump boots (\$299, Bishop Boutique).