

# RETAIL THERAPY

BY MARIESSA TERRELL



Talking with Ted at Passport Clothing. Photo: Kristopher Johnson



Color blocked at Treasury. Photo: Kristopher Johnson

**A**utumn maneuvers are the best kind. When else can you jettison forward wearing thigh-high Prada boots discreetly hidden under Dolce & Gabbana crêpe de chine? Oh, there is power in the right apparel. Most of it is mental. But all of it counts.

## Ted Talks

If I were a “boy” I would anchor my autumn work/play uniform with a Flavius check wool Ted Baker blazer from the Mainline collection. For a staid London staple, this sport jacket combines superior tailoring with good old British mischief. You can find fashion and whimsy in the detailing. The lining, for instance,

alternates between polka dots and a super cool model-train screen-printed motif. The price alone (about \$549) may necessitate more than a few wears per week. So for work I would pair it with navy flat-front flannel trousers, a fitted periwinkle-collared shirt, and ox blood lace ups. For play I would toss it over a Chuck Brown t-shirt with dark waxed skinny denim and leather Converse. When a jacket is required, it’s a no brainer. Ted Baker is more than able to do the talking for you. (Passport Clothing, | 2003 11th St. NW)

## Color Block Party

As the sky morphs from light blue to slate gray I feel obliged to light up the early morning landscape during my Red Line commute. Sometimes, if it’s raining, a triple “C” threat is necessary: color, confidence, and coffee. Luckily color blocking is still trending for fall 2013. Unlike Michael Kors, who contrasts cobalt blue and white for fall/winter, I prefer hot pink and emerald green. I can easily harness the confidence of the youth-quaking 1960s by donning a long-sleeved “Kermit” green wool tunic and cotton candy beret from Treasury.

The beret, my newest wardrobe “star,” carries with her a trio of golden coins that shimmer and shake through the coffee bar line and into a new work day. I couldn’t be more (Mary) Quaint! (Treasury Vintage Clothing, 1843 14th St. NW)

## Eat Your Carrots

Experts advise that seasonal menus are the most nutritious. Therefore, in November it’s best to seek out carrots, sweet potatoes, and warming spices like cardamom, ginger, and cinnamon. Carrots are easy enough to find. But of course my preference involves grated carotene mixed with toasted coconut, cardamom, and cream cheese. Here’s to optimal nourishment as nature intended, with a side of cake to boot. Find other seasonal classic American baked goods with a British twist at BakeHouse, the newest bakery in MidCityDC. (BakeHouse, 1407 T St. NW)

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Seasonal carrots at BakeHouse. Photo: Kristopher Johnson