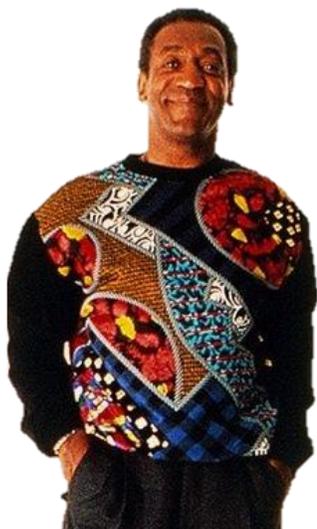


How to Happy Holiday Like a Hero



The ugly sweater trend gained a lot of popularity in the eighties and nineties with TV and movie dads like Bill Cosby and Chevy Chase. Their cheesy family-friendly comedy matched their fashion choices in bold ways. The recent surge in popularity for the ugly, tacky, Cosby, Coogie and Christmas sweaters and their subsequent parties is probably a mix of poking fun at the past and our ability to pull new cultural norms from the past. What probably began by accident or in competition for the funniest or most “Christmasy” sweater, has become a staple now. The sweaters are fun, warm and comfortable, like we hope to feel throughout the holiday season.

Just because you get invited to an ugly sweater party, doesn't mean you have to look horrid. Here are some tips to make your holiday even more fashionable.

Diversify your look to include more religious and spiritual motifs.

For me and my diverse circle of friends, I am glad that a “happy Hanakuh”, “Habari Gani” or “merry Christmas” are still acceptable. For most of us, subject to the political correctness of government and corporations, Christmas has been casually replaced with “holiday”. Add a cross, a star of David, a dreidel a nativity scene—why not celebrate and display your faith proudly.

Why it works: These symbols give us power and identity. It is the time of year for celebration and to put religious intolerances aside. Don't be afraid to take it to the spiritual realm.





Bring on the bling, if you want to be awesome! Glitter, tinsel, sequins and crystals go a long way, so less is more.



Why it works: Because people are more forgiving this time of year when it comes to fashion. It is cold, dark with shorter days; the bling represents the stars.



Add the plaid for that rustic Yeoman farmer or school girl look.
Wear a plaid, tartan, kilt or a scarf.

Why it works: Because people like Americana and the prints look homey and nostalgic.



Do party prints like Ankara, chevron, stripes, stars and zebra. Who says you have to stick to seasonal prints and patterns when there are so many cool combinations to choose.



Why it works: Some prints are so common now that they are like the new black. Prints are visually appealing and make us smile when we style them just right.





Go overboard or go home!

The time for being extra is now. Mix prints. Add decorations. Over accessorize. Try a hat and shades. There is so much focus on the ugly sweater and all its glory, but don't forget about the pants or your accessories—they complete the look.

Why it works: The more the merrier 🤪



Try new holiday hues. We are used to the red and green, the blue and silver and winter whites, but have you tried neon? Try a different color scheme including hot pink, orange, purple, yellow or rainbow. Colors can be seasonal but why limit yourself to the darker shades most common for the winter.



Why it works: Fashion changes quickly and similarly, traditions are created and evolve over time. New colors give us new ways to celebrate the season and bright ones can especially help minimize that seasonal depression and overall bitterness.

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